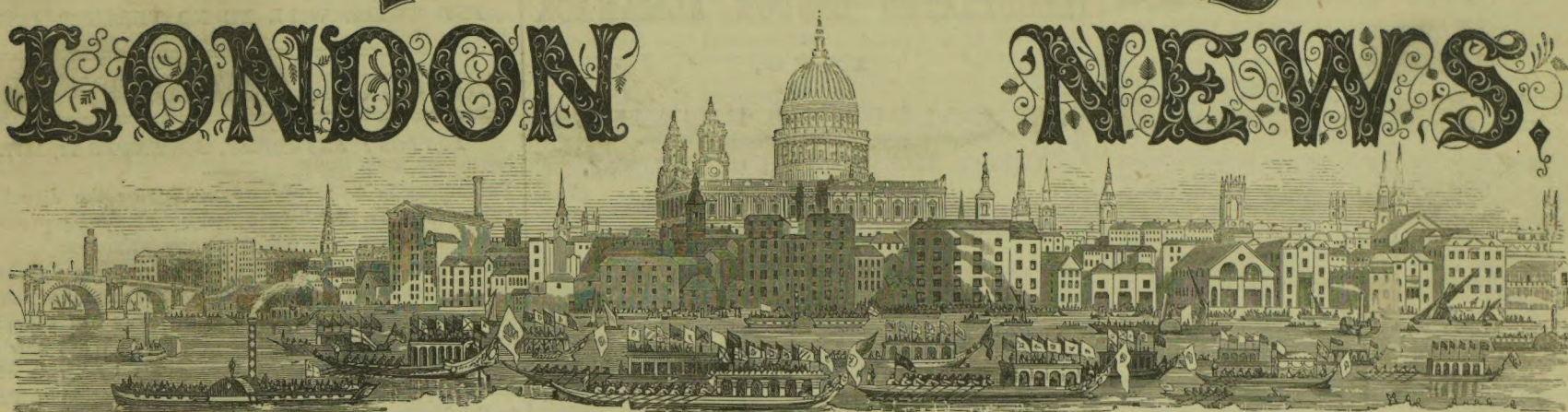


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2008.—VOL. LXXI.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1877.

WITH } SIXPENCE.
TWO SUPPLEMENTS } By Post, 6½d.



OSMAN PASHA.

BIRTHS.

On the 13th inst., at Quinte-al-Mare, Italy, the wife of Edmund George Reader, Esq., British Vice-Consul at Genoa, of a daughter.
On the 16th inst., at Brodie Castle, N.B., Lady Eleanor Brodie, of a son.
On the 16th inst., at Drenagh, in the county of Derry, the Hon. Mrs. McCausland, of a daughter.
On the 17th inst., at East Wotton Vicarage, Yorkshire, Lady Beatrice Stewart, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

On the 18th inst., at Kingston-upon-Thames, Charles L. N. Ingram, Esq., Captain 3rd Royal Surrey Militia, second surviving son of the late Holcut Ingram, Esq., M.P. of Swinhead Abbey, Lincolnshire, to Lucy Frances, eldest daughter of Francis A. Davis, Esq., of Angelsea House, Epsom, Surrey.
On the 18th inst., at St. Andrew's Church, Liverpool, by the Rev. Donald Macleod, D.D., one of Her Majesty's Chaplains for Scotland, Norman Macleod, Ceylon, eldest son of the late Rev. Norman Macleod, D.D., of the Parish of Glasgow, to Jessie Caldwell, eldest daughter of the late William Gifford, Esq., of Liverpool.
On the 10th ult., at St. John's Cathedral, Manitoba, by the Most Rev. the Metropolitan of Rupert's Land, assisted by the Rev. Canon O'Meara, Walter Robert, son of the late Rev. Perry Nursey, Rector of Croxtwick, Norfolk, England, to Kate Alexander, daughter of the late W. H. Coxwell, Esq., of Toronto, Canada.
On the 12th inst., at St. John's Church, Upper Holloway, Islington, by the Rev. J. D. Triggs, Vicar of Loxwood, Sussex, George Cooper, of Round Hill, Brighton, to Fanny Carter, of Marlborough-road, Upper Holloway, London.
On the 15th inst., at Redfern Church, Sydney, N.S.W., by the Rev. Canon Stephen M.A., Rector, William Osborne Moore, R.N., Lieutenant-Commander H.M. schooner Alacrity, Australia, eldest surviving son of John Aldin Moore, Esq., of 95, South-hill-park, Hampstead-heath, and the Inner Temple, to Maria Gertrude, youngest daughter of the late Major Osborne, Esq., of 35, Russell-square, London.
On Oct. 11, at Chalmers Church, Adelaide, Australia, Henry James, second son of F. C. Southwell, Esq., of Wisbech, Cambs., to Mary, third daughter of the Hon. Thomas English, M.L.C., Parkside, Adelaide.

DEATHS.

On the 11th inst., at Cadiz, of rapid consumption, Antonia Maria, the beloved eldest daughter of George Petty, Esq., merchant, of that city, sincerely lamented by all who knew her, aged 24 years.
On the 13th inst., suddenly, at his residence, Knight's Hill House, Lower Norwood, Herbert Harris Cannan, aged 64 years. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.
At her residence, Ventnor Villas, West Brighton, Eliza, relict of the late Charles Podmore, Esq., of Forest House, Chigwell, in her 76th year. Friends kindly accept this intimation.
On the 14th inst., at 2, Burwood-place, Hyde Park, of bronchitis, Dionysius Steel, infant son of William George and Martha Lardner, aged one year.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each insertion.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 29.

SUNDAY, Dec. 23.

Fourth Sunday in Advent.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Bishop of London's ordination;
11 a.m., Rev. Canon Farrar;
3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Liddon;
7 p.m., Rev. George Congreve, Curate of St. John's, Cowley.
St. James's, noon, Rev. W. H. Bliss, Rector of West Isley, Berks.

MONDAY, Dec. 24.

George I., King of Greece, born, 1815.

TUESDAY, Dec. 25.

Christmas Day.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Very Rev. Dean Church; 3.15 p.m., no sermon.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., Very Rev. the Dean.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 26.

St. Stephen, deacon and martyr.
Bank Holiday.

THURSDAY, Dec. 27.

St. John the Evangelist.
Royal Institution, Christmas lectures, 3 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on Heat, Visible and Invisible).

FRIDAY, Dec. 28.

Holy Innocents.
Westminster Abbey, 3 p.m., Very Rev. the Dean will preach the annual sermon to children.

SATURDAY, Dec. 29.

Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on Heat).

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.		Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 10 a.m.	Minimum, read at 10 p.m.	General Direction.	
Dec. 12	29.823	43° 5'	37° 0'	80	0-10	4 50° 6'	35° 0'	SSW. SW. WSW.	422
13	29.892	38° 6'	34° 6'	87	5	42° 3'	34° 3'	SW. WSW.	220
14	30.273	37° 1'	33° 1'	87	2	42° 2'	31° 9'	WSW. W. NW.	143
15	30.445	39° 6'	34° 6'	92	10	43° 9'	29° 1'	NW. W. SW.	177
16	30.394	46° 6'	40° 9'	82	—	48° 8'	43° 8'	WSW. W. WNW.	312
17	30.362	44° 6'	40° 8'	87	8	47° 8'	41° 4'	WNW. WNW.	181
18	30.523	39° 3'	36° 1'	90	2	45° 8'	32° 3'	NW. NNW.	138

* Dew measured.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m. —

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.737	29.896	30.109	30.500	30.330	30.393	30.590
Temperature of Air	49° 3'	38° 4'	36° 9'	34° 1'	45° 3'	43° 5'	37° 8'
Temperature of Evaporation	45° 4'	37° 2'	35° 3'	32° 0'	42° 7'	42° 5'	38° 7'
Direction of Wind	SW.	W.	SW.	W.	SW.	WSW.	NW.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 29.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 35	3 29	4 23	4 45	5 9	5 33	5 58
6 23	6 14	7 08	7 29	7 50	8 14	8 39
9 11	8 59	9 53	10 14	10 35	10 59	11 24
12 09	11 55	12 49	1 10	1 31	1 55	2 20
15 07	14 52	15 46	16 07	16 28	16 52	17 17
18 05	17 49	18 43	19 04	19 25	19 49	20 14
21 03	20 47	21 41	22 02	22 23	22 47	23 12
24 01	23 45	24 39	24 60	24 21	24 45	25 10

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT, ONCE IN A CENTURY, A MUSICAL ALMANAC, by Mr. Corney Grain; and OUR NEW DOLL'S HOUSE, next Wednesday, at Three and Eight; Thursday at Three; Friday, at Three and Eight; and Saturday, at Three.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place.

MASKELYNE and COOKE. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock. EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly. Fifth year in London. The present programme embraces Psycho and Zoe, the twin automatic mysteries; the sensational séance, in exposure of so-called Spiritualism, in which Mr. Cooke floats about the room taking the cabinet with him—the most astounding feat ever accomplished; and many other illusory items of novel and original character. Such is the success of the entertainment that it is advisable to book seats in advance, for which there is no charge. Admission 5s., 3s., 2s., 1s. W. MORROW Manager.

LONDON BALL CONCERTS.—ST. JAMES'S HALL. NOTICE.—AN EXTRA MORNING CONCERT will be given on SATURDAY, JAN. 5; and the First EVENING CONCERT on WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16. The usual distinguished Artists will appear on each occasion. Early application for Tickets should be made to Boosey and Co., 295, Regent-street; or Mr. Austin, St. James's Hall.

EVANS'S, COVENT-GARDEN.—NOTICE.—These celebrated Supper-Rooms are now open for the reception of Ladies. Evans's Choir Boys, specially trained by and under the direction of Mr. F. Jonghmann; and the best available Comic talent. Supper after the Theatres.—Proprietor, J. B. A. MORGAN.

Now Ready,
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FINE ART, &c.
TWELVE ENGRAVINGS AS HEADINGS TO THE CALENDAR.
ASTRONOMICAL DIAGRAMS OF REMARKABLE PHENOMENA,
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THE ILLUSTRATED PENNY ALMANACK for 1878.
containing Twenty-Four Engravings from the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS—viz., Gates of Constantinople, Ports on the Bosphorus and the Black Sea, Old Modes of Locomotion, &c.; Tables of Stamps, Taxes, and Licenses; Eclipses, Remarkable Events, Post-Office Regulations, and a great variety of Useful and Interesting Information. The Trade supplied by G. VICKERS, Angel-court (172), Strand; and H. Williams, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row London.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The TWELFTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.
Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The SIXTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, One Shilling. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, "THE BRAZEN SERPENT," "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM," and "CHRIST ENTERING THE TEMPLE," each 33 ft. by 22 ft.; with "Dream of Pilate's Wife," "Christian Martyr," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, W. Daily, 10 to 8. 1s.

CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE-GALLERY.—Open all the year round for the RECEPTION AND SALE OF PICTURES by the British and Foreign Schools. For Particulars apply to Mr. C. W. WASS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.—On BOXING NIGHT, PUSS IN BOOTS, Mlle. Cavalazzi, and Ballet of 350. Prices and Day Performances, as usual. Booking by Mr. E. Hall. No fees.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—BOXING NIGHT, DEC. 25, will be produced the Grand Christmas Pantomime, THE WHITE CAT, by E. L. Blanchard, Scenery by W. Beverly—in which the celebrated Vokes Family will make their reappearance in London. Premiere Danseuse, Mlle. Pifféri. Double Harlequinade. Morning Performances: Thursday, Dec. 27; Saturday, Dec. 29; and every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday during the month of January. Box-Office open from Ten till Five Daily, until further notice.

TURN OF THE TIDE, by F. C. Burnand, EVERY EVENING, at Eight. Preceded, at Seven, by A ROUGH DIAMOND. The most powerful Company in London. Box-Office hours, Eleven to Five. No booking fees. Prices, from 1s. to 25 3s.—ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.
GRAND PANTOMIME, THE ENCHANTED PRINCE; or, Beauty and the Bears. BOXING NIGHT and Every Evening, at Seven. Morning Performances: Boxing Day, Dec. 26; Thursday, Dec. 27; and Saturday, Dec. 29; and Every Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at One. Children under Ten, half price.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHITHEATRE, WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD.

This commodious and elegant Theatre, the only establishment of its kind in the United Kingdom where the Circus, Hippodrome, and Equestrian Performances are given, since the home and pride of the great Astley and Ducrow, and the ambition of every large Equestrian Director of Europe and America, duly Licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, having been gorgeously re-decorated, and now possessing all the modern improvements of the most recently erected Theatres in England, both as regards the comfort of the audience and stage requirements, will REOPEN on BOXING DAY, DEC. 26, 1877, at Two o'clock, with a carefully selected Burlesque Pantomime, and Equestrian Company. Production on a scale of splendour of the Grand Christmas Double Pantomime, written by W. M. Akhurst, Esq., entitled WHITTINGTON AND HIS WONDERFUL CAT; or, Harlequin Johnny Gilpin and his Ride to Edmonton. The Pantomime of 1877-8 will (notwithstanding the liberality of the proprietors in their previous productions) by far eclipse any attempt that has been made in this elegant theatre. The twelve magnificent scenes executed by those eminent artists, Messrs. Daves and Caney. Properties by Mr. John Rogers and assistants; the gorgeous Costumes by Mrs. Covey and assistants; the brilliant Music composed by Giorgi. High-class Vocalists, Comedian Dancers, Double Harlequinade, and the Circus Company. Two Performances Daily: every Afternoon, at Two and Evening at Seven. Box-Office open from Ten till Four. Prices:—Private Boxes, from £1 11s. 6d. to £5 5s.; Balcony Stalls, 4s.; Orchestra Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Boxes and Pit Stalls, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

MESSRS. JOHN SANGER and SON'S Grand CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S CARNIVAL, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL GREAT HALL, Islington, commencing BOXING DAY, DEC. 26, at Two o'clock. The most powerful attraction ever submitted to the public. Four complete entertainments in one. Flat-Racing, Hurdle-Racing, Steeple-Chasing, Pony Racing, Camel, Dromedary, and Elephant Races; three complete Circus Companies; Mons. Cannovera's Ten and Elephant Racing; the Wonders from the East; Great Display of Fireworks; and the Grand Military Spectacle entitled the Bombardment and Fall of Plevna, in which Two Thousand Men and Horses, Camels, Oxen, Goats, &c., will take part. Seating accommodation for Twenty Thousand People. Every Evening at Seven. Reserved Seats (select), 3s.; First Class, 2s.; Second Class, 1s.; and the Great Galleries, 6d.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES, ON BOXING DAY, WEDNESDAY NEXT, DEC. 28, THE WORLD-FAMED

MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS' THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SERIES OF HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES will commence in the

ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL, Regent-street and Piccadilly, which will be specially fitted up for these Performances. THE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME will, as usual, BE THE RICHEST AND MOST ATTRACTIVE amidst the entire round of Metropolitan Amusements. FORTY ARTISTS OF KNOWN EMINENCE will take part in the Holiday Entertainment. FIVE THOUSAND SEATS IN THE MOST MAGNIFICENT AND LUXURIOUS HALL IN EUROPE. PERFORMANCES WILL BE GIVEN EVERY DAY AT THREE, EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT, UNTIL SATURDAY, JAN. 12, 1878.

Prices of admission: Great Area and Gallery (2000 places), 1s.; Balcony, 2s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Fauteuils, 5s. Children under Twelve, half-price; to Stalls and Balcony only. No fees, no charge for programmes. Tickets and places, for any day or evening up to Jan. 12, may be secured at Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall, without extra charge.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S HOLIDAYS, 1877-8.

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES WILL COMMENCE ON BOXING DAY, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26, WHEN A NEW AND MOST DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PRESENTED, in which the entire strength of this great Company will be engaged. PERFORMANCES WILL BE GIVEN EVERY DAY AT THREE AND EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT, from Boxing Day, Dec. 26, to Saturday, Jan. 12, inclusive, FIVE THOUSAND SEATS.

Doors open every day at Two every night at Seven. Places can be booked in advance of the series without extra charge at Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall.

ST. JAMES'S GREAT HALL, Regent-street and Piccadilly. THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SERIES OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES. EVERY DAY AT THREE, EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT. COMMENCING BOXING DAY. FIVE THOUSAND SEATS.

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES AT ST. JAMES'S GREAT HALL. EVERY DAY AT THREE, EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT. Omnibuses run direct to the Doors of St. James's Hall from every Railway Station in London. EVERY WEST-END OMNIBUS WILL ALSO CONVEY VISITORS FROM ALL PARTS OF LONDON TO THE DOORS OF THE HALL.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER

IS OUT OF PRINT,

AND THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER ISSUE.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1877.

Parliament is to meet on Jan. 17 "for the dispatch of business." To that date it had been formally prorogued but a few days before without any intimation, and, presumably, without any intention of engaging it in the actual exercise of its functions. The announcement has excited no little speculation in the mind of the public. Why this sudden change of purpose? What new facts will explain it? Is it the declaration by Servia of war and independence? or is it the hasty invitation of Turkey to the Neutral Powers to mediate between herself and Russia? or is it that the view of the British Cabinet is changing, or may probably change, in regard to that "conditional neutrality" which has been its policy since the commencement of hostilities? Is Parliament to be asked to share, and so to lighten, the responsibility of her Majesty's Government at this crisis of affairs between Russia and Turkey; or have the Government already arrived at some resolution, the carrying out of which will require the sanction of her Majesty's faithful Commons by providing the necessary supplies? Such questions as these—natural, almost inevitable—are not likely, perhaps, to elicit an immediate answer. The actual state of the facts can only be guessed. It is shrouded in a haze of uncertainty; and, unfortunately, there is nothing more undesirable at this period of the year for the revival of business than a general conviction that something serious is at hand, and a general ignorance of what that may chance to be.

It can hardly be pretended, we think, that the relation of this country to the belligerents in South-Eastern Europe furnishes adequate grounds for an alteration of its policy. "British interests," as specifically described by Mr. Cross, Lord Derby, and Sir Stafford Northcote, are not more threatened at the present moment than they have been since the crossing of the Danube by the Russians. The fall of Plevna has merely removed an accidental obstacle to the invasion of Roumelia. The Servian declaration of war, upon whatever ground it may be condemned, or justified, does nothing to modify the conditions upon which we have publicly professed our neutrality. The Circular Note to the Neutral Powers in which they are somewhat coyly asked to shield Turkey from the effects of her own obstinacy, offers no concession but such as might have been made during the Session of the Constantinople Conference nearly twelve months ago. The tone of it is still the same. The justification of Turkish misrule is put upon the same grounds of untruthfulness. The promises of amendment are without any guarantee that they will be performed. The "integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire," so far as they were secured by the Treaty of Paris, are assumed as bases which upwards of twenty years of misrule in Turkey have done nothing to modify. Of course such a diplomatic document was little likely to win favour with the Neutral Powers, nor, if reports current can be relied upon, has it done so. Germany has not stirred. Austria sees nothing in it to affect the line of policy she has adopted. France is probably too absorbed in the happy settlement of her internal affairs to give any serious attention, just at present, to the Eastern Question. Italy alone has intimated a disposition to join with other Powers in consideration of the diplomatic movement appealing to their judgment. What Great Britain has done in the matter remains to be seen. It is not probable that Lord Derby looks upon the Circular Note of the Turkish Government as presenting an adequate basis for European action; but he may regard it as an indication on the part of Turkey that she feels herself to be unequal to the defensive task which she may have to perform. And he may regard, and perhaps rightly regard, such an indication as a good reason for conference among the Powers as to what they may unitedly recognise as reasonable and practicable terms of peace.

It would seem to be far from improbable that before the date appointed for the meeting of Parliament Russia may be in a position to prescribe conditions of peace to Turkey, or that Turkey, anxious to stave off impending ruin, may incline to negotiate with Russia alone. There are many reasons which might induce the Turk rather to submit to the dictation of her foe than to put herself under the protection of Europe, and thereby to surrender her political independence. It may be with a view to such a possibility that Parliament has been summoned for "the dispatch of business." It is much to be desired in any case, and more especially in the case supposed, that the utterance of the British people in the pending crisis should be clear and determinate. A thorough debate in both Houses of Parliament on the present position of the Eastern Question and on the relation in which the country chooses to stand towards it, might go far to strengthen the Ministry in case their policy is unchanged, or to guide them in the event of their wishing to

substitute for it one of enterprise. At any rate, we are inclined to think that it is a hopeful sign of Ministerial sense of responsibility that the early assembling of Parliament has been resolved upon. If there had been any intention on the part of the Cabinet to commit the country to a policy which it would be likely to resent—a policy of war instead of one of neutrality—one can hardly surmise that it would be in haste to meet the representatives of the people. It seems somewhat more probable that, in this instance, it is really anxious to ascertain, upon the best authority, what line of action England should take in circumstances of no little difficulty and of paramount importance. It is hardly credible that her Majesty's advisers should deem themselves authorised to strike out a new direction of policy without giving free play to the opinion and will of the legislative bodies. The public, we think, are not entitled to presume that the intention of the Cabinet is, or will be, to forestall the National judgment. There are members of it who, if they are not in a majority as to numbers, being a minority of great moral weight, would refuse, we think, to take the country by surprise, and would rather retire from office than be parties to any arrangement by which the Foreign Policy of England should be materially shifted from one foundation to another before consulting the great Council of the Kingdom.

Nothing, however, it is to be feared, can be hoped for from the discretion of the Turkish Government. It is their interest—at least, so they believe—to identify England as much as possible with what they still describe as the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire. There can be no doubt that they have powerful supporters in these dominions; and it will be well for the public to ascertain, through Parliament, how far the anticipations and wishes of the Sublime Porte are to be justified by the determination of the English people.

THE COURT.

The Queen was joined at Windsor Castle on Thursday week by the Prince and Princess of Wales. The Royal dinner party included also the Dean of Windsor and General Sir T. M. Biddulph. On the previous day Princess Christian and Princesses Victoria and Louise of Schleswig-Holstein visited her Majesty; and Lady Frances Baillie, the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, and the Rev. Canon Pearson dined with the Queen.

Yesterday week was the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort. Princess Louise of Lorne and the Marquis of Lorne arrived at the castle. The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and the Marquis of Lorne went to the Mausoleum at Frogmore at half-past eleven o'clock, when a short service was performed by the Dean of Windsor, and the choir of St. George's Chapel sang, under the direction of Sir George Elvey, Mus. Doc. By her Majesty's commands, the Mausoleum was opened from half-past twelve to half-past three p.m. for the ladies and gentlemen and servants of the household and their families to visit it. Several residents in Windsor and the neighbourhood were also admitted, by special permission. The Princess and Princess of Wales left the castle in the afternoon for town. Princess Christian dined with the Queen.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, went to Hughenden Manor on Saturday last, on a visit to the Earl of Beaconsfield. Princess Louise of Lorne and the Marquis of Lorne left the castle for London. Prince and Princess Christian dined with the Queen.

Princess Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. James Fleming, B.D., Residuary Canon of York, Vicar of St. Michael's, Chester-square, officiated. Princess Christian visited her Majesty.

The Judge-Advocate-General had an audience of the Queen on Monday.

The Earl of Beaconsfield arrived at the castle on Tuesday, and had an audience of her Majesty. He, with the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, who had also arrived, dined with the Queen. The Hon. Lady Biddulph and Lieutenant-General H. Ponsonby were also included in her Majesty's dinner party.

The Court will pass the Christmas at Windsor.

Lady Abercromby has succeeded the Duchess Dowager of Athole as Lady in Waiting, and Viscount Hawarden and Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Charles Lindsay have succeeded Lord Bagot and Mr. John F. Campbell of Islay as Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Prince and Princess of Wales returned to Clarence House, St. James's, after visiting the Queen at Windsor Castle. Their Royal Highnesses went to the Gaiety Theatre on Tuesday evening. The Prince left London on Wednesday on a visit to Mr. W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, at Diddington Hall, near Brandon. The Princess remains a few days longer at Clarence House.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein left Cumberland Lodge on Monday on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Normanton, at Somerley, Ringwood.

Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne dined with Lord and Lady Howard of Glossop last week at Rutland-gate.

The Duke of Cambridge has been on a visit during the week to Lord and Lady Aveland at Normanton Park.

The Duchess of Teck has recovered from her recent indisposition.

The Crown Prince of Hanover dined with the Prince of Wales at Clarence House on Saturday last. His Royal Highness left the Alexandra Hotel on Sunday for Paris; he drove in one of the Prince of Wales's carriages, and on his way to the station called at Clarence House, whence the Prince of Wales accompanied him to Charing-cross, and there took leave of him.

The Prince Imperial went on Monday to Wimpole, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke.

Her Majesty's new powerful armour-plated ship Northampton concluded on Saturday last a series of steam trials in the Channel, under the inspection of Vice-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart. They proved entirely satisfactory, a speed of over fourteen knots per hour being attained.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO HUGHENDEN.

On Saturday her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by General Ponsonby, Colonel Da Plat, and the Marchioness of Ely, left Windsor Castle for Hughenden, on a visit to Lord Beaconsfield. At the Windsor station of the Great Western Railway a special train of saloon carriages had been prepared for the journey to High Wycombe. This train left Windsor at 12.40 p.m., and passed through the "west curve" at Slough on to the main down line, and thence by the village of Cookham, crossing the Thames at Bourne End, to Woburn-green. Here the first signs of loyal welcome were seen, a flag hanging above the ancient church tower, while a crowd of residents clustered near the station. A run of a few minutes more brought the train into High Wycombe station, where her Majesty arrived at 1.15 p.m., and was received with a hearty burst of cheering. The Great Western station was prettily decorated, and some of the inhabitants of High Wycombe, including Lord Carington and other gentlemen, had succeeded in turning the waiting-room of a very ordinary building into a charming boudoir, with palms and ferns on all sides. The platform was carpeted and the walls draped with crimson cloth, a reserved space being railed off for privileged spectators and the Mayor and Corporation of the place. A lofty triumphal arch of evergreens, surmounted by the words "God Save the Queen," spanned the entrance to the station-yard, along one side of which were Venetian masts carrying festoons of flags. Drawn up in a line facing the booking-offices was a guard of honour composed of the permanent staff and band of the Royal Bucks Militia, under Captain F. Powell, with Lieutenant Rose bearing the Queen's colours, and the Bucks Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Wethered, the school children occupying the west end of the yard. Crenon-street, a narrow, steep thoroughfare leading into the town, presented a vista of arches and flags, while High-street was a blaze of colour. The Mayor's invitation to the townspeople to show their loyalty in a becoming manner had been interpreted in this way. Wherever a balcony could be draped, wherever a motto could be attached or a flag could be hung, the enthusiasm of High Wycombe had seized the opportunity of showing itself. Along the line of route it seemed hardly possible to hang another flag. High Wycombe has for its staple manufacture the making of chairs from the beech woods so abundant hereabouts. An archway of these materials was improvised along the Queen's route. It was made up of chairs of all kinds, and bore the words, "Long Live the Queen." Her Majesty's attention was specially attracted by this curious structure, and the Royal carriage was stopped that its occupants might have a better view. Most of the shops were closed, the little town kept holiday, and was thronged with visitors, while the bells rang merrily from the church steeple.

Lord Beaconsfield, attended by Mr. Montagu Corrie, his private secretary, reached the station at about one o'clock to await the arrival of her Majesty. Among those present on the platform were Lord Carington, Colonel Carington (M.P. for High Wycombe), Sir C. L. Young, Mr. A. Gilby, J.P., Mr. A. Vernon, M.P., Mr. R. H. Crewe, M.P., and Mr. C. W. Phillips (Mayor of Wycombe), with several Aldermen and Councillors, and the Town Clerk. Her Majesty, upon alighting from the Royal saloon, was received by Lord Beaconsfield, who introduced the Mayor. The latter presented an address, which was beautifully illuminated on vellum and bore the seal of the Corporation of Wycombe. The Queen, having accepted the address, handed it to the Prime Minister, who thanked the Mayor. The Queen and Princess Beatrice accepted beautiful bouquets of flowers presented to them by Miss Emily Phillips, the daughter of the Mayor. They walked through the waiting-room to an open carriage, drawn by four horses, the Guard of Honour saluting and the bands playing the National Anthem. As the Royal carriage passed out of the station-yard, amid the cheers of the spectators, the children sang "God Save the Queen." The journey through High-street to the Hughenden road was one long-continued scene of loyal enthusiasm. Never has the Queen received a heartier welcome. A drive of about a couple of miles brought the Queen to Hughenden. The Premier had preceded the Royal party in his own carriage, and was at his door to receive her Majesty. At Hughenden the Queen and Princess Beatrice lunched with Lord Beaconsfield and remained about two hours. Before leaving, the Queen planted a tree on the lawn in front of the house to serve as memorial of her visit, and Princess Beatrice planted another tree close by. Lord Beaconsfield attended the Queen on her return to High Wycombe station. Her Majesty was received with renewed demonstrations of loyalty. The station and line of route were kept by the borough police and a detachment of the metropolitan force. At the departure of the Queen the Guard of Honour was again in attendance. At 3.45 p.m. the Royal train left High Wycombe, and after a rapid journey arrived at Windsor shortly after half-past four o'clock. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove to the Castle.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

The great variety of beautiful designs, pictorial, decorative, and poetical or literary, presented by such eminent manufacturers of artistic fancy-ware as Messrs. De la Rue, Marcus Ward, and others lately named with approval, should be enough to please every taste in the choice of Christmas cards. Our page Engraving, from drawings by Mr. George Cruikshank, junior, exhibits a collection of grotesque and humorous devices, bearing reference to the customs of this festive season, and suitable by the form and size of the drawings, if not by their spirit and character, to appear on these missives of personal greeting which people send by post to their acquaintance in the last week of the year. It is true that some of them are rather too satirical for human self-esteem to accept without displeasure; and we should not recommend their adoption for cards to be addressed to friends who are of a sensitive disposition. It would be a sad mistake to convert any form of social compliment, especially upon this occasion of the sacred festival of "peace and good will," into what might be likely to give offence; but we are perfectly sure that this is far from being the intention of the clever artist, who has merely indulged a vein of comic invention and a genuine love of fun in such harmless gambols of capricious imagination. The reader is therefore invited, with a safe conscience, to enjoy the general drollery of these caricatures, and to take notice that they are not to be copied or extracted for the purpose of hitting any particular foibles in the circle of his real acquaintance.

"NEVER MIND! CHRISTMAS IS COMING!"

The two little girls overtaken in the street by a disagreeable fit of bad weather, any time in December or November of this or any other year, may well console themselves for the absence of summer sunshine by remembering that the genial glow of Christmas festivity, with all its innocent frolics and almost consecrated dainties of the feast, is drawing nearer to them dry by day. It is certainly a happy compensation for the bodily

discomforts and the gloom and chill of on-coming winter, that we are invited by social custom, at the instance of an immemorial appointment of the Church, to make merry and rejoice with our friends, both great and small, in the last week of the departing year, when the outward aspect of nature does not usually seem very cheerful. "Christmas is coming!" has often proved a watchword of wholesome efficacy and potency to dispel the vapours of ill-humour in a simple or juvenile mind; and we should be loth to see the progress of the age, in whatever direction, at all diminish the esteem that is commonly cherished for a festival with so many pleasant associations, not to speak of its religious character.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Addison, William Fountaine; Vicar of Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe. Bagot, Edmund B.; Chaplain to the Salford Royal Hospital. Beal, Samuel; Vicar of Falsstone. Pennett, Peter; Vicar of Forcett. Bonser, James Armitage; Vicar of Shillington with Gravenhurst. Bowly, Charles Henry; Vicar of Messing, Essex. Brook, Arthur; Rector of St. John's, Hackney. Capel, Alfred John; Vicar of St. John Baptist, Hereford, with Chaplainry of St. Mary Magdalene annexed. Crofton, Henry Woodward; Rector of St. Mary March, Cambridge. Fenn, J. F.; Chaplain to the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. Freer, T. Henry; Rector of Sudbury, Derby. Gilder, W.; Vicar of Mackworth, Derbyshire; Rural Dean of Radburne. Gordon, William; Vicar of All Saints', Paddock. Gray, Thomas Sill; Rector of Garsdon with the Vicarage of Lea and Claverton annexed, Wilts. Gwyn, James Bevan; Rector of Rockingham. Jones, Hugh Beaumont; Vicar of Frisby on the Wreack. Jones, Maurice Weldon; Vicar of Trefeglwys, Montgomery. Lambard, Charles James; Vicar of Southill. Layton, Thomas Charles Litchfield; Vicar of Sempringham. Leeson, Wilfrid Nevill; Vicar of Witham on the Hill. Morgan, John; Rector of Edm with Cargiwen and Pistyll, Carnarvonshire. Nunn, H. D. Cust, Minor Canon and Vicar of Ripon Cathedral; Rural Dean. Oliver, Thomas; Perpetual Curate of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Liverpool. Pattinson, William John; Rector of Maidwell, Northamptonshire. Poole, Henry J.; Incumbent of the Parochial District of Wangaratta, Victoria, Australia. Price, William Salter; Vicar of Wingfield, Suffolk. Prince, William; Vicar of Burgh-on-Bain. Ransome, J. H.; Vicar of Kinkeswold. Simpson, A. G. K.; Perpetual Curate of St. Mark's, Kemp Town, Brighton. Smith, Percival; Vicar of St. John the Baptist's, Harborne. Taylor, Charles Samuel; Vicar of St. Thomas's, Bristol. Torr, Thomas Joseph; Vicar of Northamundham and Hunston. Williams, Eleazar; Rector of Llanguin and Tregaian, Anglesey. Willoughby, Hugh St. Maur; Rector of Trowell.—*Guardian*.

The Bishop of St. Albans reopened the parish church of Witham on Tuesday, after restoration.

The church of Holcombe Rogus, Devon, has been restored at the expense of Mr. W. C. Rayer, of Holcombe Court.

The Duke of Rutland has given the site for the intended new church at Ilkeston, Derbyshire, and has promised £500 in aid of the building fund.

An iron church was on Tuesday opened at Stechford by the Bishop of Worcester. Stechford has largely increased in population, and the parish church of Yardley is a mile distant.

The Bishop of St. Albans has reopened Christ's Church, Warley, which had been enlarged by the addition of a north aisle containing 100 sittings.

It is announced in the *Gazette* that the Venerable Edward Trollope, M.A., Archdeacon of Stow, has been nominated to be Bishop-Suffragan of the see of Nottingham, in the room of Dr. Henry Mackenzie, resigned.

St. Matthias's, West Brompton, has been much improved by two beautiful Munich windows, one representing the Nativity and the other the Flight into Egypt. They come from the studio of Mayer and Co.

At the meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday Mr. James Neale read a paper on St. Albans Cathedral. He stated that practically the whole of the Norman building of the abbey was constructed from Roman tiles from the ruins of Verulam.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in distributing the prizes to the students of the Ripon Diocesan Female Training College, expressed the opinion that a thoroughly perfect education cannot be attained without reference to religion, and urged that it is our bounden duty to foster all institutions which conduce to the spread of a real religious education.

At a Cabinet Council held on Tuesday it was decided that Parliament shall be summoned to meet on Jan. 17, instead of the usual time in February. Several Speeches out of Parliament have been given during the past week, but we have not room for even a brief summary of them—a circumstance which our readers, perhaps, will not deeply regret at this season.

The Duke of Cambridge inspected the cadets at the Military College, Sandhurst, last Saturday, and at the conclusion of the ceremony briefly addressed the young officers, expressing his great satisfaction at the result of their training.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says that Major-General Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., K.C.B., Deputy Adjutant-General in Ireland, succeeds Major-General E. B. Hamley, C.B., on Jan. 1 as Commandant of the Staff College.

In reference to the Engravings of prize dogs at the Birmingham Dog Show, given in our last Issue, Mr. W. Thomson, of Morden, Surrey, writes stating the dog Hero, lately belonging to him, won the first prize and cup for sheep-dogs.

The Corporation of Exeter has decided to buy the water-works of that city, on the basis of payment of 8 per cent on the capital of the water company. The terms involve an immediate expenditure by the Corporation of £94,000 in buying up the old company, and a further sum of £50,000 to £100,000 to be laid out in procuring a fresh supply of water for drinking purposes.

The Syndicate appointed to consider the requirements of the University of Cambridge in various departments of study have made a report to the Senate, wherein they recommend many additions to the present course.—The "Little-Go" list was issued on Monday morning. In Part I., the classical part of the examination, 139 have passed in the first class and 175 in the second class, while 149 have failed. In Part II., 172 have gained a first class and 159 a second class, while 147 have failed. In the additional subjects, out of 419 candidates, 332 have satisfied the examiners.—Several items of intelligence relating to the Universities and Public Schools are unavoidably omitted.

At an early hour on Thursday morning part of the upper flooring of Mr. Milne's hotel, Edinburgh, at which there was a fire on the previous evening, gave way, and carried with it seven other floors. Three of these, being in the hotel, were unoccupied, the fourth was used as shops, but the three flats below were occupied as dwelling-house. The alarm of fire being past, most of the inhabitants returned to their dwellings, and several of them were buried in the debris, while others made narrow escapes. Three persons were taken out dead.



"NEVER MIND! CHRISTMAS IS COMING!"

THE WAR.

Since the surrender of Plevna and Osman Pasha's army on Monday week, the Russians in Bulgaria have been strengthening their advanced positions towards the Balkans and preparing for a conflict with the Turkish army in the Kamarli Pass, near Orkanich, on the road to Sofia. They will have to overcome an obstinate resistance in those localities before they can reach Adrianople. The disposal of their many thousand prisoners of war has occupied them several days. A rumour of the suicide of Osman Pasha by poison has been contradicted. The illustrious captive is treated with great respect by the Russians; while, at Constantinople, the Sultan has conferred an honorary appointment on the son of Osman Pasha, though a mere boy. The Emperor of Russia left Bucharest on Monday night, on his return to St. Petersburg.

There is little actual news of the progress of the campaign since our last. The Turks have abandoned Elena, a town south-east of Timova, and near the Hainkioi Pass of the Balkans, which they had lately recaptured from the Russians. This place has now been reoccupied by General Deltinghausen, whose advance guard also holds Bebrova. Nothing has been done as yet by the army of the Czarevitch between the Jantra and the Lom; and it is supposed that Suleiman Pasha will fall back on the Quadrilateral of fortresses in Eastern Bulgaria. The immediate contest is between General Gourko's force and that of Chakir Pasha, who has succeeded Mahomet Ali Pasha, in the fortified positions south of the Etropol Balkans, on the road to Sofia.

Prince Milan of Serbia has finally issued his declaration of renewed war against the Sultan. The Serbian troops have crossed the frontier between Alexinatz and Nish, and captured the fortress of Prokolopje and the position of Mramor. They are preparing also to besiege Widdin on the Danube. General Leschjanin commands their forces against Nish, and General Horvatovich against Widdin.

In Asia, so far as we can learn the position of affairs, the Russians have suspended for the present any direct attack on Erzeroum. They have retired from the Deve Boyoun Pass, which could scarcely be occupied during the wintry weather that has now set in, and their head-quarters are being formed at the village of Zoumahmad, seven miles to the north-east. They are making a road to get round to the western side of Erzeroum.

The Turkish Imperial Parliament was reopened last week by the Sultan, with a speech from the Throne in which he made no allusion to the fall of Plevna, but announced a fresh conscription for the army, which is to include the non-Mussulman population. These have lately been amenable to serve in the Civic Guard, but not among the regular troops.

A diplomatic Circular Note has been addressed to all the European Powers by the Turkish Government, expressing a general readiness to negotiate for terms of peace, but declining to admit the establishment for Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Bulgaria of any exceptional form of government, and still insisting that the common franchises and liberties granted by the present Sultan to all his subjects are quite sufficient for the protection of the Christians. It is understood that the German and Austrian Governments have refused to join in a mediation upon this basis.

We give some Illustrations of the War, from sketches by our Special Artists.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The crisis is at an end. Marshal MacMahon has submitted on every point, and signed decrees naming a Ministry of the Left. The new Cabinet is composed as follows:—Minister of Justice and President of the Council, M. Dufaure; Interior, M. de Marcère; Foreign Affairs, M. Waddington; Finances, M. Léon Say; Public Education, M. Bardoux; War, General Borel; Marine, Admiral Pothuau; Public Works, M. de Freycinet; Commerce, M. Teisserenc de Bort. The names of the new Ministry were officially published yesterday week, and in the afternoon, at the meeting of the Chambers, a message was read from Marshal MacMahon on the subject. It is of a conciliatory character, and intimates that he intends to conform to the will of the country, as the interest of the nation demands that the crisis through which it was passing should be appeased. He promises that there shall not be another dissolution, and expresses a hope that the end of the present state of things will be the beginning of the new era of prosperity. M. Dufaure, who read this message to the Senate, was warmly greeted, and for once the scene there was more animated than in the Chamber of Deputies. After the reading of the address in the Lower Chamber, the verification of the elections was resumed. A warm discussion arose upon that of M. Kerjegu, a Legitimist. The election was ultimately declared valid, as was that of M. Villiers (Right).

In the Chamber on Saturday last M. Léon Say, the Minister of Finance, stated that, as it was impossible now to vote the Budget in its entirety, the Government thought that the clauses relative to the direct taxes should be detached. He hoped the House would authorise the collection of the other items of revenue in accordance with the existing laws. A credit sufficient to last for two months would be asked for. Two bills were then presented by the Minister in accordance with the statement he had made, and these were at once adopted, after protests had been read in the name of the Legitimists and Bonapartists declaring that their votes were not to be regarded as expressing confidence in the Ministry.

M. Bardoux, the Minister of Public Instruction, introduced two bills in the Chamber on Monday—one for affording gratuitous instruction in elementary schools and another for the building of school-houses. In the Senate the death of General Aurelles de Paladines was announced by the President, who spoke in high terms of the deceased. The Budget Bills were then declared urgent.

On Tuesday M. Dufaure presented in the Lower Chamber a bill for the repeal of the law upon press offences, and for granting an amnesty to persons convicted of such offences since May 16. Almost without an expression of opposition the Senate gave its assent to the Budget scheme proposed by the Government and approved by the Lower House on Saturday. Both Chambers were then prorogued till Jan. 8 next.

An election was held on Sunday in the ninth arrondissement of Paris for a deputy in the room of M. Jules Grévy, who had elected to sit for the Jura, and M. Girardin was returned by a large majority.

An official decree was published on Wednesday appointing the opening of the Councils-General for the 21st inst.

The appointments of eighty-five Prefects were gazetted on Wednesday morning. The resignations of a certain number of the Prefects appointed by M. de Fourtou are accepted, while in other cases these functionaries have been dismissed from their posts.

The death of M. de Royer, First President of the Court of Accounts, aged seventy, is announced.

SPAIN.

The members of the Diplomatic Body presented congratula-

tions to King Alfonso on his approaching marriage last Monday. The marriage is to be celebrated in the Basilica of Atocha at Madrid. The Princess Mercedes and her family will sojourn at Aranjuez till Jan. 22. She will arrive at Madrid only one hour before the ceremony. The fêtes are to last five days, during which time theatrical representations, horse-races, and bull-fights are to be provided for the people free. A banquet is to be given to a thousand of the poor of Madrid in the Prado, and there are to be historical processions in the Plaza de Torres; the nobles of Spain being invited to take part in the cavalcades. All children born on the 23rd are to be dowered, and 50,000 pesetas are to be distributed among the poor.

At Seville the mules of a carriage containing the Duc de Montpensier, his son, and Princess Mercedes, ran away, and the coachman was thrown from the box, but nobody was hurt.

ITALY.

In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday week a debate took place on the liberty and secrecy of private telegrams, which led to a vote of confidence in the Government being proposed by Signor Salazar. The motion was carried by 181 to 162 votes. In Sunday's sitting Signor Depretis announced that, in consequence of the present position of parties, the Ministers had tendered their resignations to the King, who had accepted them, and that Signor Depretis had been charged with the formation of a new Cabinet. The House was prorogued on Wednesday.

The *Official Gazette* announces the prolongation, until March 31 next, of the treaties of commerce and navigation between Italy, on the one hand, and Great Britain, Austria, Belgium, and Switzerland on the other.

SWITZERLAND.

The State Council has rejected the convention concluded with Great Britain for the mutual protection of trade-marks.

BELGIUM.

An interesting ceremony took place at Brussels last Saturday. The Palais Ducal, near the Royal Palace, which was originally built to serve as a residence for the Princes of Orange, and was used at last as the Museum of Modern Art, which is now joined to the great Museum, has been handed over to the Royal Academy and the Academy of Medicine of Belgium, and will henceforth bear the name of Palais des Academies. The inaugural sitting of the Academies took place in the great hall. The King and Queen and the Count and Countess of Flanders were present. After the termination of the sitting the King and Queen visited the collections of the two Academies.

GERMANY.

The *Standard's* correspondent at Berlin states that the Emperor William has agreed to accept Dr. Hermann's proffered resignation, but he will probably replace him by Dr. Sygow, the Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Religion and Education, who candidly supports the ecclesiastical policy of Prince Bismarck and Dr. Falk.

The German Government has presented the Estimates for the next year to the Federal Council for approval. There is a deficit of 35,000,000 marks, which will have to be made good by matriculatory contributions from the several States.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

Pesth was the scene of a violent popular manifestation in favour of the Turks on Sunday night. In the afternoon some seven thousand persons assembled, and speeches of a highly inflammatory nature were delivered, in which the policy of Count Andrássy was condemned in unmeasured terms. A deputa- tion was sent to Herr Tisza, and upon his refusing to receive more than ten or twelve persons, the mob broke into his private house, while the crowd outside smashed the windows and raised shouts of "Down with Andrássy!" "Down with Tisza!" and it was not until the troops had been called out and threatened to charge the assemblage that it could be dispersed. In Monday's sitting of the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet, Herr Sontag asked that an inquiry should be instituted into the circumstances attending this demonstration. Herr Tisza, the Minister-President, in reply, stated that the Government could not suffer either the foreign or home policy of Hungary to be determined by street demonstrations. It was the duty of the Government to maintain confidence in Hungary, and he (the Minister) counted upon the patriotism of every citizen to aid them in their task. In conclusion, Herr Tisza declared that proceedings would be taken with all due severity against the authors of the manifestation. Herr Sontag's motion, calling upon the Minister of Justice to institute an inquiry, was adopted. The Indemnity Bill proposed by the Common Ministry for defraying the common expenditure of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy during the first quarter 1878 was then agreed to, and the bill prolonging the treaty with England on the basis of the most-favoured-nation clause also passed.

By a vote of 125 against 63, the Austrian Chamber of Deputies on Monday rejected a motion for the appointment of a committee of twelve to inquire into the manner in which the press law and the law on associations have been administered by the Government.

Count Andrássy is reported to have made a long speech on Tuesday on foreign affairs before the Budget Committee of the Austrian Delegation. The committee determined to observe the most rigorous secrecy as to the communications of the Government, but they elected two delegates to draw up in concert with the Government a report, which is to be published.

After an exhaustive debate, the Compromise Committee of the Austrian Lower House adopted yesterday week, by 29 against 8 votes, the Government bill for the prolongation of the Commercial Treaty with Great Britain.

GREECE.

A popular demonstration in favour of war with Turkey occurred at Athens on Sunday evening. A Cabinet Council was held the same evening, at which it was determined that the Government, in concert with the Chamber, should adhere to the policy of maintaining peace.

AMERICA.

Congress has adjourned for the holidays without taking action on the silver question. The House of Representatives has finally passed the Paris Exhibition Bill by 124 against 89 votes. Ex-Governor M'Cormick, late Assistant-Secretary to the Treasury, has been appointed Chief Commissioner at the Exhibition.

There have been troubles at El Paso, in Texas, growing out of the disputed possession of certain salt ponds.

Mr. Farley, Democrat, has been elected senator for California, succeeding Mr. Sargent, a Republican.

The Hon. J. V. L. Pruyn, of Albany, Chancellor of the University of the State of New York, died on Nov. 21 at Clifton Springs, where he had gone for the benefit of his health, in his sixty-seventh year.

INDIA.

A telegram, dated the 15th inst., from the Viceroy of India respecting the famine, states that in Madras the number of persons receiving relief on the works was 203,507, and

receiving gratuitous relief 317,001. In Bombay there were none on the works, but 13,750 were receiving gratuitous relief. In Mysore the numbers were 66,277 and 19,480 respectively.

We continue to receive good accounts of the success of both the Jowaki expeditions. The *Times* Calcutta correspondent, writing on the 16th, says that tribes have been unable to make any stand against artillery, and the complete destruction of Jammu and Bori, and of the other fortified hamlets in their territory, has apparently entirely cowed them. The last report states, however, that a large Jowaki council was held at Jammu on the 12th, the result of which was a determination not to treat as long as English troops remain in Jowaki territory. The Government, on the other hand, have resolved not to withdraw the troops until the tribes send in their unconditional and unqualified submission.

Another item of news sent by the *Times's* correspondent is that the Advocate-General, Mr. G. Paul, has been appointed an official member of the Legislative Council.

AUSTRALIA.

A Reuter's telegram from Sydney states that shortly after the New South Wales Parliament was opened the Ministry resigned in consequence of a defeat in the Legislative Assembly upon the address in reply to the Governor's opening speech. Mr. Parkes, leader of the Opposition, was then (Dec. 8) engaged in forming a new Ministry.

The Agent-General for South Australia (Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G.) has received the following telegram from the Government at Adelaide, dated the 16th inst.:—"Total amount remitted by the colonists of South Australia in aid of the Madras Relief Fund, £10,000. The emigrant vessels Queen of Nations and Rodney had arrived safely at Port Adelaide, all well. The harvest prospects were fair, and there would be about 240,000 tons of breadstuffs for exportation."

From a report presented to the "Parliament of Queensland and issued under authority," it appears that the "birth-rate for the year 1876 was 3'74," "marriage-rate persons, 1'51," and the "mortality 1'88 per cent of the population."

A revolutionary plot has been discovered at Guatemala, and seventeen of the conspirators have been executed.

A riot arising out of a strike has taken place in Montreal, one man being killed and three wounded.

Mlle. Victorine Benoit, already Bachelor of Sciences and Letters, has passed with success her examination for the end of the first year at the School of Medicine at Nantes.

The ex-Queen Isabella of Spain has ordered from one of the principal jewellers of Paris a splendid diadem of brilliants for the Infanta Mercedes.

An elephant, five tigers, and as many apes have arrived at Marseilles from India. They are intended for the Jardin des Plantes. The only giraffe at the Marseilles Zoological Gardens died recently.

The ship Robert Lees, 1200 tons, Captain Rose, sailed from Gravesend on the 14th inst., bound for Brisbane, Queensland, and had on board sixty-six married people, 143 single men, seventy-two single women, thirty-one children between the ages of twelve and one, and five infants.

The *Gazette* announces that the Queen has appointed Mr. Ralph Milbanke to be a Second Secretary in her Majesty's Diplomatic Service; and Mr. Henry Stewart Cunningham to be a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, in the room of Mr. A. G. Macpherson, resigned.

The diamonds shipped by the European have been recovered. They were contained in registered letters, which have been received at the Post Office. There were 104 letters in a bag for London; sixty have been identified and forwarded to their destinations, but fourteen were found beaten into a pulp, and the diamonds from them loose in the bag.

The Egyptian Minister of Finance has issued a notice that it has been thought advisable to postpone the payment of the intercalary coupon for a fortnight, in order to complete the £250,000 still wanting for that purpose without touching next year's revenues. The Minister says that all obligations created by existing decrees are thus respected.

Don Carlos, who is travelling incognito in Italy, has been robbed of his Collar of the Golden Fleece, which is not only of great pecuniary value, but is believed to be the ornament made for Philip, Duke of Burgundy, in 1430, on his founding the order in celebration of his third marriage. It is uncertain whether the theft was committed at Venice or at Milan, but it was discovered at the latter place.

At a meeting of the Birmingham and Midland Institute the council has been empowered to apply to the Charity Commissioners for permission to raise £25,000 on mortgage for the extension of the institute, for which a site, at a cost of £15,000, has already been obtained, or to obtain a special Act of Parliament for that purpose.

At a Town Council meeting at Gravesend, on Wednesday morning, the Mayor (Mr. Troughton) presented four prizes for saving life at sea. The prizes were a pair of silver-mounted glasses and three first-class silver medals, presented to Captain E. W. Freshwater and the crew, named Peters, Bottle, and Potsan, of the steam-tug *Reliance*, of that town. They were forwarded to the Mayor by the French Government, through the Board of Trade, with the request that they should be suitably presented for saving the crew from the French ship *Jean Baptiste*, which became a wreck at the Nore on Nov. 14, 1876.

The National Reform Union held its annual meeting in Manchester on Wednesday. In the evening Mr. Cowen, M.P., presided over a public meeting in the Free Trade Hall. He hoped that improved organisation of the Liberal party would not be allowed to supersede free thought and free action. The objects which the party would seek in the future were an equalisation of the borough and county franchise, the enlargement of municipal institutions, control by the ratepayers of the liquor traffic, and disestablishment of established churches. A resolution was passed in favour of extending the county franchise in connection with a redistribution of seats; and, in regard to the Eastern Question, a resolution was adopted urging the Government to observe strict neutrality.

A revised scale of charges for inland money orders will come into operation on Jan. 1 next, and will be as follows:—For sums under 10s. twopenney; 10s. and under £2, threepence; £2 and under £3, fourpence; £3 and under £4, fivepence; £4 and under £5, sixpence; £5 and under £6, sevenpence; £6 and under £7, eightpence; £7 and under £8, ninepence; £8 and under £9, tenpence; £9 and under £10, elevenpence; £10, one shilling. Also on Jan. 1 next the charge for registering letters will be reduced from fourpence to twopenney. It will be important to note that the new envelopes, bearing twopenny stamps for the payment of the registration fee only, must have affixed to them the necessary stamp or stamps for postage, and must not be dropped into a letter-box, but must be given to an agent of the post-office.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

As mentioned last week, the performances at this establishment were prolonged until Tuesday, instead of terminating, as previously announced, on Saturday last. The only specialty during the past week was the début of Signor Celada, who was favourably received as Manrico in "Il Trovatore," the cast of the opera having been, in other respects, the same as before. On Monday "Martha" was given, with Mdlle. Marimon's refined performance as the Lady Enrichetta (Martha), and the first and only appearance here this season of Madame Trebelli, who repeated her well-known representation of Nancy. The cast was also efficient in other respects, having included Signor Del Puente as Plunketto, Signor Urio as Lionello, and Signor Zoboli as Lord Tristano.

On Tuesday, the closing night, selections were given from "Un Ballo in Maschera," "Dinorah," and "Rigoletto"—sustained by most of the principal artists of the company—the occasion having been for the benefit of Mr. Mapleson.

The experiment of a series of performances of Italian opera at largely reduced prices is understood to have been, as it certainly deserved to be, thoroughly successful. Sixteen operas have been performed, with a general efficiency of cast that was highly satisfactory.

The production of Verdi's "La Forza del Destino," with alterations of the libretto and the composer's recent modifications of the score, has been postponed to the early part of the regular season of next year, in consequence of the attraction exercised by the past series of performances. Her Majesty's Theatre will be reopened by Mr. Mapleson on Boxing Night with "The Swiss Cottage," a version of Adolphe Adam's operetta "Le Châlet," followed by a new grand ballet, "Rose and Marie; or, the Reward of Filial Love," in which 300 children will appear, including the students of the National Training School for Dancing. Mr. H. Weist Hill will be the musical director and conductor during the forthcoming series of performances.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

With the concert of Saturday last, the series of those performances terminated for the year, to be resumed on Feb. 9. Saturday's programme was appropriated to Mr. Hatton's new sacred drama, "Hezekiah," which was heard for the first time in public on this occasion. The text—based on the well-known incidents in the career of the King of Judah—has been written by Miss Beatrice Abercrombie. The principal characters in the supposed action are—Hezekiah, a messenger from Isaiah, Hephzi-bah (wife of Hezekiah), and Abi (mother of Hezekiah). Their vocal representatives on Saturday were—Mr. Santley, Mr. Lloyd, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, and Madame Patey, some incidental passages for a Jewish woman having been sung by Miss Emma Reinar.

The work is divided into two parts, each of which is preceded by an orchestral introduction. The music is throughout written with that knowledge of vocal requirements which might be expected from one who has produced so many successful songs, ballads, and part-songs. There is, however, a want of distinct character and a lack of sustained power that induce an effect of monotony, which is felt at the end of the first part, and still more at the close of the whole. The most effective portions are those in which passages from Handel and Mendelssohn are reflected. Among the numbers that were best received were the airs "O, let thy heart, and "O, day of trouble," finely sung by Madame Patey; the cup-bearer's air, "Come ye out to me," admirably given by Mr. Lloyd, and "Say ye, O Israel," excellently declaimed, as were other portions of Hezekiah's music, by Mr. Santley. Of the several choral movements, by far the best are the chorus of the people, "Judah rejoice!" the chorus of Assyrians, "Assyria, shake thy proud banners out;" "O God! keep not Thine silence;" and the chorus of Assyrian warriors, "This people trusteth in their God." The performance—ably conducted by Mr. Manns—was, on the whole, an efficient one, including the co-operation of the Crystal Palace choir.

The Saturday afternoon concerts will be resumed on Feb. 9.

At the second concert of the new season of the Sacred Harmonic Society, yesterday (Friday) week, Handel's "Judas Maccabeus" was very effectively performed, the orchestral score enhanced by the copious additions made some years ago by Sir Michael Costa expressly for the society. The solos were efficiently rendered by Madame L. Sherrington, Misses Julia Wigan and Elton, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. M. Smith, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Many of the pieces, choral and solo, were much applauded—Mr. Lloyd having been encored in the declamatory air, "Call forth thy powers."

"The Messiah" was given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society on Thursday evening, and by the Sacred Harmonic Society yesterday (Friday) evening.

"The Messiah" is to be given at the Alexandra Palace this (Saturday) evening, being the last of the present series of Handel concerts.

The Popular Concerts close for the year with the afternoon performance of to-day (Saturday). At last Saturday's concert Miss Dora Schirmacher was again the solo pianist; Miss Zimmermann having reappeared in that capacity on Monday evening. Madame Norman-Néruda was the leading violinist on both occasions.

Professor G. A. Macfarren's oratorio "Joseph" was performed by the Brixton Choral Society—conducted by Mr. Lemare—on Monday evening, when the choruses were well sung by the choir, and the solos efficiently rendered by Misses Ellen Horne and Coyte Turner; and Messrs. J. T. Hutchinson, C. Tovey, and Welby Wallace.

A performance of Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" (parts one and two) was given by the Royal Academy of Music last week.

The competition for the Thalberg Scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music was held on Monday. There were twenty-three candidates, and the scholarship was awarded to Alice Heathcote. The competition for the Novello Scholarship was also held on Monday. There were seven candidates, and the scholarship was awarded to William Sewell.

The competition for the Novello Scholarship at the National Training School for Music was held on Wednesday; and it was awarded to James Farquharson Walenn. At the same time Miss Charlotte E. Cobb was elected to the vacant scholarship of the Clothworkers' Company.

The Gloucester Chronicle states that the accounts of the Three Choirs Festival have been made up. The total expenses were £4263 19s. 9d. The sale of tickets realised £4091 17s., thus leaving a deficiency of £169 2s. 9d. A call of £1 has therefore been made on each of the 171 stewards, and this, with a balance of £32 7s. 4d. from the festival of 1874, leaves £34 4s. 7d. to be carried forward to the next Gloucester Festival. The Chronicle is unable to state the exact sum to be paid to the Clergy Charity, but it will amount to between £1800 and £1850.

The postmastership at Plymouth has been conferred on Mr. J. B. Ellen, at present postmaster at York.

THEATRES.

Mr. J. L. Toole, having returned from the provinces, appeared at the Globe on Monday as Spicer Romford, in "Artful Cards." He had a most cordial reception, and was throughout enthusiastically applauded. In "Trying a Magistrate," he next illustrated his ability to adapt himself to a variety of humours, as also the extent of his mimetic powers. The fun of a police court, incarnated in his single person, caused boundless amusement. Mr. Hollingshead's "Birthplace of Podgers" concluded the entertainment, and exhibited the comic actor in some of his most genial characteristics.

There was a special festival last Saturday at the Royal Aquarium for the benefit of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. The entertainments were of a highly diversified character, comprising, besides the usual attractions of the establishment, two vocal and instrumental concerts—the one in the morning, the other in the evening—and a dramatic performance in the theatre. The programmes included, among other favourite pieces, the overtures "Gazza Ladra" and "Masaniello;" a pastoral fantasia on "A Summer Day in Norway;" selections from Gounod's opera "Faust," and Rivière's grand march, "The Queen's." The dramatic performances were varied and attractive, consisting for the most part of selections from some of the most popular plays now in course of representation at the West-End theatres. Many distinguished actors gave their services.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIMES.

We give in due course such particulars as have reached us concerning the forthcoming Pantomimes. Beginning with our national theatre.

The pantomime at Drury Lane Theatre will be distinguished by illustrations of remarkable variety and beauty. The elaborate production entitled "Harlequin and the White Cat" is founded on the celebrated fairy tale by the Countess d'Aulnoy, and is written, as usual, by Mr. E. L. Blanchard. The story opens at the hunting château and country palace of Mytymama, Queen of Neverneverre, in Burgundy, who is celebrating the coming-of-age of her daughter, the Princess Blanchette. The Queen, personated by Miss Harriet Coveney, has, it seems, promised the fairy Violante that when her daughter (Mrs. F. Vokes) was born and had attained her eighteenth year she should be given in marriage to Psycho, the Goblin Dwarf, who is the fairy's son. In the midst of the festivities—which are graced by the presence of King Colorado (Mr. F. Moreland) and his three sons, Prince Natty the Neat (Miss Victoria Vokes), Prince Nectar the Nimble (Miss Jessie Vokes), and Prince Tremor the Nervous (Mr. Fred. Vokes)—the old fairy appears, and, indignant at the promise not being fulfilled, causes Psycho (Mr. Walter Vokes) to bear off the Princess, in the form of a white cat. The friendly fairies of the Wild Flowers, who meet by moonlight at the Lake of Water-Lilies, unite in a grand ballet, in which Mdlle. Pitteri is the principal danseuse. The three Princes, travelling through the Forest of Enchantment, encounter the Cats' School of Cookery in the wood. Finally, after the White Cat's head has been cut off and her proper form restored, the Princess Blanchette marries Prince Natty, and the good fairies celebrate the nuptials by giving them in the transformation scene magnificent bridal gifts. Mr. William Beverly has excelled his past pictorial triumphs in the production of beautiful scenery and most magical effects, and the costumes, from the designs of a clever young artist who is to be known by the name of Wilhelm, are singularly tasteful and brilliant. Herr Karl Meyder has arranged the music, Mr. Bradwell has taken care of the tricks, changes, and appointments, and Mr. John Cornack, the experienced ballet-master, has arranged the action and trained the very numerous corps of juvenile auxiliaries. In the harlequinade, Messrs. Edward Dean and F. Sims are harlequins, Miss Fanny Lauri and Miss Kate Hamilton columbines, Miss A. Rosalind is Harlequina à la Watteau, Messrs. H. Lauri and Turtle Jones are pantaloons, and Messrs. Charles Lauri and F. Evans clowns.

No particulars of the Covent Garden pantomime have reached us, but we see that "Puss in Boots" is announced, and that the Raynors, Romaines, Furneaux Cook, Levite, Mdlles. Alice Cook, Champneys, Lee, M'Alpine, Pasco, Nina, Gunniss, and Signora Cavalazzi will figure in it, with ballet of 300.

The Christmas novelty at the Alhambra will be a spectacular and musical version of "Le Diable à Quatre," written by H. B. Farnie and R. Reece, entitled "Wildfire; or, the Village Bewitched."

The subject of the pantomime at the National Standard Theatre is founded on a popular Persian story, to the main incidents of which the writer has generally adhered, only occasionally departing from them for the purpose of spectacular display. The title is "The Enchanted Prince; or, Harlequin Beauty and the Bears." It is written, invented, and produced by Mr. John Douglass, author of the Standard pantomimes for the past thirteen years.

Still further east the Albion Theatre, Poplar, claims due registry for "Little Tom Tucker, who Sang for his Supper," a pantomime provided by Frank W. Green and Oswald Allan, which is subtitled "Harlequin Lord Mayor's Show, and the Fairy Bells of Limehouse, Poplar, and Bow."

The Surrey Theatre makes a direct appeal, through Mr. W. Holland, for support. We are told that Frank W. Green, Esq., has been very successful with his pantomimes, and that the present is by this gentleman. The subject is Dick Whittington and his Cat. Among the artistes engaged "the inimitable Tom Lovell" is named as Clown.

The Christmas arrangements at the Alexandra Palace are unusually extensive. The pièce de résistance of the programme will be a very elaborate pantomime, written by the Brothers Grinn, upon the favourite story of St. George and the Dragon. The scenery and the general arrangements of the pantomime have been confided to Mr. Henry Emden. The composition and arrangement of the music has been placed in the hands of Mr. Frank Musgrave. The subject chosen for the transformation scene is "Vertumna and the Swallows," in which some novel effects will be developed. The ballet corps has been formed and superintended by Mr. John Lauri. The chief ballet is entitled "a Fête Champêtre à la Watteau." The comic scenes have been arranged and will be played by the Payne Family. Besides the pantomime, the hippodrome will be rendered especially attractive by a spectacular representation of an Eastern character, introducing processions of elephants, dromedaries, zebras, buffaloes, horses, ponies, &c. The pantomime will be played daily at three, performances in the hippodrome (located for the holidays in the central hall) preceding and following it. On Boxing Day the pantomime will be played at three o'clock, performances in the hippodrome taking place at alternate hours from morning till night.

At the Crystal Palace the subject of the pantomime is "The Sleeping Beauty," written by Augustus Harris and W. R. Osman, and announced for performance this day.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"Concert-Stück for the Organ," by William Spark, Mus. Doc. (Metzler and Co.). This is an effective piece, in three movements, which was composed expressly for the recent Leeds Festival, and performed by Dr. Spark, who is organist of the Townhall there. As mention was made of this piece in the notices of the festival, we need now only record its publication.

King Henry's song, "Youth will needs have dalliance," by Arthur Sullivan (Messrs. Metzler and Co.). This is a portion of the incidental music composed for the performance of the play of "Henry VIII." at the Manchester Theatre, under the spirited management of Mr. Calvert. We have already spoken of this music on the occasion of its performance at a Crystal Palace Concert in October last, when the song produced a great impression, and had to be repeated. The words are said to have been written by the bluff King himself. Mr. Sullivan's music is full of character, with a very effective reflection of the old English style. It is printed with the choral refrain, which is, however, *ad libitum*.

"Across the Far Blue Hills, Marie," song, by Jacques Blumenthal (Metzler and Co.), has an effective melody, which is well contrasted by a characteristic accompaniment.

Messrs. Novello, Ewer, and Co. have added to their valuable series of "Octavo Editions of Operas" Richard Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer" ("The Flying Dutchman"). The work is given with the original German text, and an English version by the Rev. J. Troutbeck; and the musical portion has been carefully edited by Mr. Berthold Tours.

Music Primers (Novello, Ewer, and Co.). Under this general title the eminent firm of music publishers named above are bringing out a cheap series of instruction-books on the theory and art of music in their various applications—some at the price of one shilling, others at two shillings. The earlier numbers promise well for the whole undertaking, these including a succinct yet comprehensive "Treatise on the Art of Pianoforte-Playing," by Ernst Pauer; a similar work on the organ, by Dr. Stainer; and an essay, by Herr Pauer, on "The Elements of the Beautiful in Music," dealing with the aesthetics of the art rather than its practice.

Another series of books of musical education is the series of works, written by Louisa Gibson, especially for the use of the high schools for girls, and published by Messrs. Weekes and Co. The first of these little books has met with much commendation; and the second and third (recently issued) are worthy continuations thereof.

"Jack's Bequest," "Oh! chide me not for loving," and "Sweet Rosabelle" are three songs composed by C. H. R. Marriott, each with a distinct character; the first in the nautical style, the second in the Scotch manner, the other of the sentimental order. The melodies are pleasing, and devoid of difficulties. They are published by Messrs. J. B. Cramer and Co., as are "Roses of the Stream" and "Fare thee well," two effective songs by A. D. Duvivier, the first to some pleasant verses by H. Hersee, the other a setting of Byron's lines.

"Mazurka à l'Espagnole," and "Sunset, a Rhapsody," by Paul Vivian (Messrs. J. B. Cramer and Co.), are showy, although not difficult, pianoforte pieces; the first in a somewhat brilliant style, the other of a more sentimental kind.

"Graziella," by J. Cheshire (the same publishers), is a pianoforte adaptation of a spirited "Entrée Dansante," which has been performed at Her Majesty's Opera.

"Biddy Malone" is a very characteristic Irish song written and composed by W. Clark Russell, and published by Messrs. R. Cocks and Co.

"The Old Parish Clerk," song; poetry by E. Capern, music by A. C. Bartrum (Shepherd and Co.). The words of this song, by the Devonshire postman, are very characteristic, and they are set to a bold melody well suited to them.

"Il mio Beppin," by F. Schira (C. Jefferys) is a setting of words from "Tuscan Popular Songs." The music has much characteristic grace and piquancy, and will suit a voice of any calibre.

A series of "Operatic Arrangements for Four Hands," by Adrian de L'Orme (Messrs. Duff and Stewart), will be widely welcomed by pianists who desire to make an effective display without the necessity of any great strain on their executive powers. The six numbers now referred to are based on themes from Weber's "Oberon," Donizetti's "La Favorita," Auber's "Fra Diavolo," Bellini's "I Puritani," Verdi's "Il Trovatore," and Rossini's "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," the prominent subjects from which are effectively strung together.

"Maritana, Grande Fantasia de Concert, pour le Piano, par Carlo Tieset" (Hutchings and Romer), is an elaborate piece, containing much brilliant passage writing, the practice of which will largely conduce to facility of execution.

Lecocq's opéra-bouffe, "La Marjolaine," has furnished the materials for some pretty quadrilles and waltzes, and the Coucou Polka, adapted, the first two by M. Arban, the others by Georges Lamothe; published by Messrs. Enoch and Sons.

"Hammond's Music Portfolio" (Messrs. A. Hammond and Co.) is a series of shilling numbers containing some of the most popular dance music by many of the most prominent composers in that style. The selection is of a varied nature.

Six pieces for the pianoforte by James Lea Summers (Goodwin and Tabb). These pieces consist of "Andante Grazioso," "Allegretto Scherzando," "Minuetto espressivo," "Cantabile e Legato," "Mazurka," and "Allegro Brillante," in each of which there is much distinctive character. The movements not only contain passages that are highly pleasing in themselves, but also many that are well calculated to improve the student's executive powers; particularly the closing piece, which is a well sustained study for arpeggios in the right hand and cantabile phrases in the left.

The first election of Verderers under the New Forest Act of 1877 was held on Monday within the forest boundary. The three vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. Eyre, 717 votes; Mr. Shrub, 649 votes; and Mr. Esdaile, 593 votes. The successful candidates are gentlemen resident in the forest who had promoted the interests of the commoners and the public.

The London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company, in their optical and scientific department, 54, Cheapside, and Bow-churchyard, have made up a guinea box of wondrous and ingenious apparatus for the entertainment of Christmas parties. It comprises a "Houdin Cabinet," with instructions for the performance of half-a-dozen good conjuring tricks; an "iridescent mammoth top," with twelve prismatic disks, capable of a variety of beautiful combinations; also glass tubes containing "fluorescent liquids," which appear of totally different colours when viewed alternately by reflected and by transmitted light. It further contains several interesting mechanical puzzles, a toy telephone of simple action without electricity, a distorting pocket-mirror for the face, and a tube of Æolian melody, through which you simply breathe to produce the tuneful whistle. Here is science in sport with many amusing tricks, and each of the special apparatus can be separately purchased.



THE CHRISTMAS CONJUROR.



A CRITICAL MOMENT.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

According to the last advices received by his innumerable friends, Mr. W. J. Thoms was as well as could be expected. Not that (happily) there was or is anything the matter with the genial scholar and antiquary, who bears his seventy-four years as lightly as though they were so many feathers; only in some quarters it was feared that Mr. Thoms might (morally) "feel bad" at the announcement that an indubitable case of centenarianism had just been verified. Her Majesty the Queen has caused a communication to be addressed to the Rev. Frederick Beadon, a Canon of Wells Cathedral, on his having completed his hundredth year; and the Royal felicitations have been followed by a complimentary address from the Board of Management of the Southampton Savings Bank, of which the venerable gentleman is president. He is the sole survivor of the original thirty-five founders of the establishment, with which he has been connected for upwards of sixty years.

There is not, however, any reason that Mr. Thoms should distress himself in any way about the matter; for it is quite erroneous to suppose that the whilom conductor of "Notes and Queries" is an utter sceptic—an uncompromising disbeliever in centenarianism. He is quite ready and willing to pin his faith to Old Parr, if the Old Man will produce his proofs. But he refuses to accept mere assertion for evidence or loose tradition for fact. In the case of the Rev. Canon Beadon the proofs are plain. Apart from the valuable testimony of the registers of his birth and baptism comes the conclusive circumstance that he was ordained seventy-seven years ago, and that he must have been twenty-three years of age before he was admitted to the rite of ordination.

At a meeting of the Southampton bank managers held to draw up the address of which I spoke anon it was incidentally stated that Canon Beadon's "recipe" for the preservation of health and the prolongation of life was comprised in the four following maxims:—Never to be out of bed after ten at night; never to be in bed after seven in the morning; never to do any "brain work" after dinner (I am writing this at three a.m. but then dinner was such a long time ago); and never to wear a great coat. These recipes are obviously all arbitrary; but their value must depend on the temperament and the avocations of the individual. Statesmen and actors, for example, are systematically compelled to keep the very latest of hours; yet actors and statesmen live, on the average, much later than authors or doctors do. As for wearing a great coat, I never remember to have seen the great Duke of Wellington (who lived till eighty-four) wear one; but, on the other hand, it is certain that Duke Arthur, when the weather was cold, wore a cloak. For the rest, the victor of Waterloo followed Canon Beadon's rules. He went early to bed; he rose early; and he never worked (when he could help it) after dinner. For instance, he won Waterloo before he dined.

Mem.: A famous Comedian, now deceased, but who lived to a very advanced age, once told me in perfect seriousness that he ascribed the longevity so frequent among the members of his own profession to the simple fact that actors and actresses are compelled to wash their faces and hands and to change their clothes thoroughly at least three, and often half a dozen, times in the course of every evening. "It keeps the pores open, Sir," quoth the famous comedian. And yet a theatre, behind the scenes, is full of draughts, which might be supposed to breed bronchitis and consumption.

What is Truth in Art? The Duke of Somerset in distributing the prizes at the Torquay Science and Art School last Saturday dissents from the proposition that Truth in Art is "everything." *Per contra*, the Right Hon. R. A. Cross, M.P., has just delivered at a prize meeting of the students of the metropolitan drawing-schools an address on artistic truth, which oration, with the honestest possible intention on the part of the speaker to be logical, is, in reality, full of the most amazing paradoxes, and which, unless distinctly controverted by those who are practically as well as theoretically familiar with art, would be calculated to do great mischief to the cause of technical education: the fostering and advancement of which are among the main objects of the Art-Schools in connection with South Kensington.

Mr. Cross indignantly protests against the employment of any imitative process in art when the result of that process is to convert one material into the semblance of another. He holds that it is in the highest degree reprehensible in a workman to paint and grain a piece of deal so as to make it look like oak; and, *ceteris paribus*, this would apply to the simulation of other kinds of costly woods, to the ingenious art of veneering, and to the delicate craft of veining wood in imitation of marble. There are three essentially "technical" callings which would be at once swept away if the Right Hon. Home Secretary's whim were gratified. I will tell him of another industry which would be utterly destroyed if his doctrine prevailed. Iron is now enamelled with so much brilliancy, with such beauty of design, and with such brilliance of hue as to resemble the best painted pottery. It has come to be an article of almost universal use, as, although its colours are as imperishable as those of porcelain, it is not fragile. But it is iron and not earthenware, and must consequently come under Mr. Cross's ban. Again (among a hundred instances of which had I space I could speak) our manufacturers at Birmingham and elsewhere do business to the amount of some millions sterling every year in an article called electro-plate for home and foreign consumption. If Mr. Cross's dicta are to be accepted, electro-plating must become a reprobated and prohibited art; since an electro spoon or fork is not True—it is not silver—but a mere piece of nickel or Chinese copper plated with the precious metal. It is (on the deal-oak principle) a Sham, and should, according to Mr. Cross, be put down. Call you this backing of your friends? Is this helping the cause of technical education?

A little controversy has cropped up concerning the "Fighting Téméraire" the famous war-ship which Turner made the subject of an equally famous picture. One correspondent of the *Times* denies that the *Téméraire* ever did much in the way of fighting, and another controverts the propriety of the title of the picture which describes the *Téméraire* as being "towed to her last moorings" up the river Thames, the fact being that, wherever the old man o' war's moorings may have been, she was not towed up the Thames until some four or five years back when she was brought to a shipbuilder's yard not far from Deptford, and there finally demolished. Another authority declares that she was broken up at Rotherhithe five-and-twenty years since. Our ancestors had more reverence for ships that had done good service; and, unless I am much mistaken, the vessel in which Sir Francis Drake accomplished his great voyage was extant at Deptford, and the delight of cockneys and country cousins so late as the reign of Queen Anne. Touching Turner's splendid picture, I don't think it matters much if the artist, when he placed the stern of the *Téméraire* to the westward, departing into the sunset soon to be followed (as one of the *Times*' correspondents prettily puts

it) "into the shades of night," had in his eye Deptford or Devonport, Portsmouth or Sheerness. Joseph Mallord William Turner was a poetical painter, and the Liberty of Westminster is not so vast as the license which the painter-poet may claim, and which should cheerfully be conceded to him. If Turner, in painting a picture of St. Paul's from the river had thrown the Rialto over the Thames instead of London Bridge, who would have had a right to grumble? And what a glorious Rialto it would have been.

An old lady of eighty-four, examined the other day at a trial before Mr. Baron Huddleston, deposed that in her youth she had been lady's maid to Lady Lowe, the wife of General Sir Hudson Lowe, Governor of St. Helena during the captivity of Napoleon, and that the Exile of Longwood used playfully to call her the "Painted Lady" in consequence of her juvenile rubicundity of countenance. I have studied the history of "Prometheus Bound" long and earnestly; but I confess that this anecdote of the Painted Lady is quite new to me. Can any correspondent deeply read in the Napoleonic Legend tell me anything about it? I can find no mention of Lady Lowe's maid in Mr. Forsyth's three volumes; and I have unhappily mislaid my copy of the charming Napoleonic Reminiscences of Mrs. Abell (*née* Miss Elizabeth Balcombe), the daughter of Napoleon's purveyor on the Rock, and with whom (when she was a little girl) during his temporary sojourn at the Briars, the captive used to romp.

At the same time, I cannot forget that Napoleon never saw Lady Lowe; that he had, altogether, only five personal interviews with Sir Hudson; and that for the last four and a half years of the ex-Emperor's life the prisoner and his guardian never met. Is it probable that Napoleon, in his sulky seclusion at Longwood, should have come in contact with or have grown familiar with the personal appearance of one of the domestics at Plantation House? It is, by-the-way, a curious fact, of which sufficient note has not hitherto been taken, that about the only officer in the British service who ever succeeded in giving a few hours' real pleasure to the Samson Agonistes of St. Helena was the late Admiral Rous. About 1819 the Hon. Mr. Rous, then a young Lieutenant in the Navy, was serving on board one of the vessels forming the squadron of observation stationed in the harbour of James Town. Lieutenant Rous was, even in 1819, a passionate devotee of the turf; and, to the intense delight of the inhabitants of the Rock, he got up some horse-races at Deadwood, the camp of the regiment specially appointed to guard Longwood House. Deadwood Races were a brilliant success, and were witnessed from a neighbouring coign of vantage with great satisfaction by Napoleon. I wonder whether there were suggested to his mind any associations between the high-mettled racers (probably Arabs from India or ponies from the Cape) on the St. Helena race-course and "*les terribles chevaux gris*" that he had seen six years before trampling the tall corn down on the field of Waterloo?

A correspondent writing from Petersfield draws attention to a grievance which, to my thinking, calls earnestly for the notice of the authorities of the General Post Office. My correspondent tells me that he frequently posts the *Illustrated London News* and other pictorial publications to his sons in New Zealand, but that they never by any chance come to hand; whereas copies of the *Times* and other newspapers never fail to reach their destination. It must surely be held incredible that the mails should be tampered with on board ship; therefore the fault must lie (I suppose) with the Post Office clerks in New Zealand. In any case, the circumstance noted demands inquiry at head-quarters. G. A. S.

It is officially intimated that the public would render great assistance to the Post Office by posting letters, Christmas cards, &c., on the 24th and 31st instant early in the day.

The "Year-Book of Facts," and the "Annual Summary," or chronicle of events, both edited by Mr. James Mason, are published in due course by Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Co., and will be useful to those who wish for a record of notable public affairs during the past twelvemonth.

As we have noticed the publication of several other pocket-books and almanacs for the ensuing year, it is well to observe that "Punch's Pocket-book," issued by Messrs. Bradbury, Agnew, and Co., at the office of that famous comic journal, keeps up its character for literary drolleries, with illustrations of a ludicrous kind, in the second part of its contents. The first part consists of the ordinary calendar, the diary, and the official and statistical information, usually to be found in yearly pocket-books. "Mr. Punch's Reading Party" is the coloured frontispiece; our old friend sits amidst a fair bevy of bright young ladies, and is only too happy.

Christmas parties, with all the children of larger and smaller growth, must have their own proper playthings for the supper-table and other harmless fun of a social evening, where rank and age forget their gravity, and the best wisdom perhaps takes refuge in a merry frolic of active practical nonsense. We have received from Messrs. W. S. Cadman and Co., of Hatton-garden, a number of pasteboard boxes containing many varieties of pretty and ingenious trifles, to be distributed for the amusement of the company upon these pleasant occasions. It is expected that we should say what we think of them; and we can, without pretending to criticism in such matters, honestly express our admiration of their beauty, in some instances, and of the skill and taste, and fertility of invention, shown in preparing them. The staple article, or the principal object designed and provided in most of these fancy commodities, is the supply of "crackers," to be pulled asunder by young ladies and gentlemen, with a detonating report, and to display, when the paper covering is unrolled, either some kind of sweetmeat, or a scrap of verse, comic or sentimental, or a shrewd proverb or phrase of compliment, or a fantastic head-gear for the lucky winner to put on. But Messrs. W. S. Cadman and Co. have improved upon these customary devices by ornamenting the crackers externally with mounted figures of really elegant design; some of moulded white cardboard, in the round or in relief, having the appearance of plaster; others painted on a flat surface. There are some of floral pattern, in which tufts of grass and artificial blossoms are introduced; in others we have feathers or shells. Perfumes are discharged on opening the little packages. These articles are not unfrequently inscribed with the French name "Cosaques," and one case may hold a dozen or half a dozen, according to size. The most available, however, for prolonged entertainment will be those of which the contents—that is to say, the mottoes or readable sentences inside the wrappings—are arranged for playing a round game of questions and answers, or to form, when pieced together, an intelligible history. Among the subjects thus dealt with are the stories of Robinson Crusoe, Little Red Ridinghood, William Tell, and others familiar to youthful minds; the strategy of the Russian and Turkish war, the geography of the Suez Canal route to India, and an imaginary lawsuit in some modern Court of Love.

FINE ARTS

We are compelled to defer till next week the insertion of an article on Beham's Engravings, at the Burlington Club, and another on the Guardi Gallery, Haymarket.

Messrs. Pilgeram and Lefèvre have issued as their latest publication for Christmas an excellent print entitled "My Neighbour." "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."—Matt. xxv. It is admirably engraved by J. B. Pratt, from the picture by Mrs. M. E. Staples (*née* Edwards), which, as many will recollect, was exhibited at the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1876. The picture exhibits a matron, a charming personification of Charity, attended by her sympathising little daughter, standing at the threshold of her cottage, administering to the wants of a half-frozen boy who has been buffeted by a snow-storm, and seemingly well snowballed by some malicious urchins. The lad is eagerly drinking a bowl of hot milk or soup, and the lady is cutting a huge slice of bread-and-butter for him. It might have heightened our notion of the lady's kindness if the artist had not left the boy out in the snow to take his mess of pottage; but then the lady, who is now gracefully framed by the doorway, would not pose so well, perhaps, in any other position, and the requirements of art must be considered.

The Right Hon. R. A. Cross, M.P., took the chair at a large meeting held on the 13th inst. at the Cannon-street Hotel, and distributed the Queen's prizes and the certificates to the successful students in the metropolitan drawing classes in connection with the South Kensington Museum. He made a vigorous attack upon false art in building, in furniture, and in dress—contending that brick and plaster should not be made to look like stone, that iron should appear for what it was, and not be disguised as wood, and that in every way society should get rid of shams.

On Saturday last was concluded a three-days' sale by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, of the collection of Mr. C. G. Lewis, the well-known engraver, who is giving up the profession. There were 620 lots, which realised a sum of £1576.

At the College for Men and Women, Mr. Newton, C.B., delivered, on Saturday last, his fourth lecture on Greek art, taking as his subject the period from B.C. 460 to B.C. 400, when art flourished at Athens under the auspices of the great Athenian statesman, Pericles, and when Phidias, the pupil of Ageladas, and other distinguished sculptors flourished.

The prospectus for the next annual drawing of the Printer's National Art-Union has been published. The prizes have been increased both in number and value. What has hitherto been the first prize, consisting of books and a work of art value £50, has become the second prize on this occasion, the place of honour being occupied by an oil painting (painted expressly for this art union) entitled "Signing the Marriage Contract," a scene from Longfellow's "Evangeline." The total number of prizes is 700.

A committee of the city companies has been for some time at work elaborating a scheme for founding a Technical University in London. The last step taken by the committee was to procure reports and suggestions from six specially nominated referees—viz., Professor Huxley, Colonel Donnelly (of the Science and Art Department), Captain Douglas Galton, Mr. H. T. Wood (Assistant Secretary of the Society of Arts), and Mr. Bartley (of the Science and Art Department). After having decided on these names, the committee adjourned to allow time for the preparation of the reports. On Thursday last they met again, and the reports were laid before them. After some discussion, the further consideration of the subject was adjourned till Jan. 17.

The Duke of Somerset distributed the prizes last Saturday to the students of the Torquay Science and Art Schools. In the course of his address he criticised the recent speech on art delivered by the Home Secretary. His Grace dissented from the proposition therein laid down, that truth in art was everything. As art was intended to raise and elevate the mind, it was essential in its cultivation to employ the imagination. There was something more in science than the mere gratification of the mind, for the very progress of the country depended on the advancement of science. Scientific men he regarded as the real benefactors of their country. His Grace dwelt briefly on the labour question.

In distributing the science and art prizes, at the Hartley Institution, Southampton, on the 14th inst., the Hon. Evelyn Ashley, M.P., contended that, without the cultivation of science and art among the masses, we should be left behind by nations on the Continent that were in competition with us.

A meeting of the general committee of the Rowland Hill Memorial Fund was held at Kidderminster on the 13th inst. It was reported that since the movement was started, twelve months ago, £1560 had been subscribed and promised, of which £461 was collected by postmasters and £339 by Mr. Albert Grant. The balance in hand was £1179, and there was £150 promised yet to be collected. The report was adopted; and it was resolved to invite subscribers of £5 and upwards to join the executive committee in considering the question of a sculptor and a site.

The Cardiff Corporation has authorised a local architect to prepare plans for a new free library and science-and-art schools. The cost of the building is estimated at £13,000.

The *Glasgow Herald* reports a meeting of the committee intrusted with the work of obtaining subscriptions for the erection of a bronze statue to the memory of the late Dr. Norman Macleod, at which it was stated that £800 had been received, and that £600 more was required.

The National Museum of the Society of Antiquaries in Scotland has been recently enriched by the addition of a collection of rare relics of the bronze age, discovered in a cairn in Fifeshire, and a collection of the most remarkable series of relics ever formed in Scotland belonging to the Viking period of Norse heathendom.

The annual exhibition of works of art by the students of the Queen's Institute in Molesworth-street, Dublin, was opened on Tuesday by the Duchess of Marlborough.—Next day the statue of Dr. Robert Graves, lately erected in the hall of the College of Physicians, Dublin, of which he was the President in 1843, was unveiled by the Duke of Marlborough, in presence of a large and distinguished assemblage. The statue is by Mr. Bruce Joy, a pupil of Foley. Among the speakers were Dr. Duncan, Sir Robert Kane, the Provost of Trinity College, and the Bishop of Limerick.

Mr. F. G. P. Neison and Mr. R. Denny Umlin have been elected by the council honorary general secretaries to the Social Science Association and Law Amendment Society.

Last Saturday evening the ceremony of presenting a second-service clasp of the Life-Boat Institution to the coxswain at Margate of the Quiver life-boat (Mr. W. Grant) was performed by Mr. Egerton Isaacson, the honorary secretary of the Margate branch. Grant has long had one of the society's medals, and this clasp was presented in recognition of services he rendered during the recent gale.

NEW BOOKS.

In the Russo-Turkish War the *Daily News* has won a high reputation for the graphic power of its special telegraphic correspondence from the Seat of War, and for the promptitude with which its voluminous telegrams have been published, from the time the Russians and Roumanians crossed the Danube up to the recent surrender of Osman Pasha after his heroic and prolonged defence of Plevna. The vigorous narrative of Osman Pasha's final sortie (telegraphed to the *Daily News* last week by Mr. J. A. MacGahan, of Khiva celebrity), is not included in the seasonably-issued volume (Macmillan and Co.) containing the bulk of "The War Correspondence" of our daily contemporary for the present year; but the book brings the campaign down to the fall of Kars, leaving, probably, to a future volume the record of the continuation or conclusion of the war. The diplomacy, which signally failed in solving the Eastern Question, is dispassionately disposed of in the opening chapter, and therein the casual reader will find the meaning of the "Andrassy Note" and the "Berlin Memorandum" made clear in a few words. There is also a useful chronology of the war; and the many letters of Mr. Archibald Forbes, Mr. MacGahan, and their colleagues, are connected by an impartial statement of the salient events in order to form a continuous history of the campaign. Preserved in the handy form of the volume before us, these war letters (the majority of them written amid the confounding bustle of the camp, or on the battle-fields themselves, and most of them transmitted to the *Daily News* by telegraph) cannot fail to be referred to with interest. Reading again the strong nervous prose in which Mr. Forbes described the crossing of the Danube at Sistova, the luckless assaults of the Muscovites on Plevna in July and September, and the critical duel between Suleiman Pasha and General Radetzky in the Shipka Pass, one cannot help comparing many of the passages, especially the Shipka narrative, to some of the most stirring chapters in Napier. And it is fair to acknowledge that Mr. MacGahan fully equals Mr. Forbes in power of vivid description, particularly in his spirited biography of General Skobelev, and in his animated account of that daring young Commander's intrepid assaults on the southern redoubts defending Plevna. Though less known to fame than Mr. Forbes and Mr. MacGahan, the *Daily News*' Specials in other parts of Bulgaria and in Armenia have contributed praiseworthy work to this valuable chronicle of the war, which could not have been republished at a more timely period than the present.

A very pleasant book, and a book of an uncommon sort, is *North Italian Folk*, by Mrs. Comyns Carr, illustrated by Randolph Caldecott (Chatto and Windus), however derisively anybody may be inclined to smile at the assertion, after looking at the title, and to ask whether anything new for a writer to say can come out of that Northern Italy with which the pen of the scribbler has made us familiar even to the verge of contempt. It may be answered decisively that something, if not quite new, at any rate sufficiently fresh to be interesting and exhilarating, may come out of even those well-worn regions. For, though in the present instance Italy, the people of the Riviera and the Apennines, are the writer's theme, it is "not the Italy of Popes and priests and controversies, of civic struggles and new kingdoms, nor the Italy of tourists or guide-books, of fame and fashion, nor even the Italy of art and artists." It is the Italy of the flower-girl, of the shopman, of the servant-wench, of the fisher-folk, of the husbandman, of the villager, of those who make up what is properly termed the people, and whom, though the tourist and the ordinary writer know but little of them, our author has had good opportunities of studying in their very midst. The author's style may be in parts a little more high-flown than the subject or the occasion seems to have required; but, on the whole, the simple scenes are described with a simplicity as attractive as it is appropriate. Let it be remarked, also, by-the-way, that the illustrations, which are numerous, are many of them charming, although some of them appear to verge, without any necessity, upon caricature. The contents are divided into two "parts," and a "conclusion." The first part deals with the Riviera, and the second with the Apennines; and the concluding chapter is occupied with an account of matters appertaining to "the feast of the Corpus Domini." We commence, naturally enough, with a glance at Genoa "the proud;" and we are soon among the merry-makers at the Carnival. We have a little sketch of a flower-girl and her method of trading, and then we are in the thick of the "festival of palms." And so we go on, with here a picture of customs and there a group of persons, until we arrive at fashionable Pegli, where sea-nymphs in "broad-brimmed Leghorn hats" take their pastime of flirtation in the blue waters. Hence we move up to the mountains, and look down upon the "loveliest of North Apennine valleys, which is between 'Giovè's mountain and the more cloven peaks of Antola hills." Before long we are watching the peasants engaged in the chestnut harvest, and anon we are spectators of a rustic wedding. The parish priest and his serving-maid are in turn introduced to us; we are witnesses of the manner in which the under priest, or "cappellano," who is "just nothing more than a peasant," is treated by his fellow-peasants; we go in and out among the various "characters" of a village, we investigate their proceedings, and we listen to their conversation. Then we follow Virginia on her way to confirmation; and, before we join in the "feast of the Corpus Domini," we stroll about among the "town folk in the country," and mark the roses coming back to the cheeks of city-bred children "in the wild, free life and the good air of this Apennine *villeggiatura*." Of such material is the book made up; and the effect of the composition is extremely agreeable.

It is somewhat difficult to know how to deal with such a book as *In the Levant*, by Charles Dudley Warner (Sampson Low, and Co.), for it has no date on the titlepage, and, although it strikes one as a new acquaintance, it appears to have reached a "fifth edition." But as it is clearly an American work written by an American author, the fifth American edition may, of course, be the first English. At any rate, it may be worth while just to mention that the notes which formed the groundwork of the volume were taken during "the winter and spring of 1875" (presumably the winter of 1875 and the spring of 1876), when "the writer made the tour of Egypt and the Levant." Memory seems to recall dimly, but with a certain sensation of pleasure, the volume in which the author recorded his adventures "among Mummies and Moslems;" and he has narrated his impressions of the Levant in the same bright and lively, thoroughly American, style. From Jaffa he commences, and then he gossips, in entertaining and by no means uninteresting fashion, about Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, Bayrout, Damascus, Cyprus, Rhodes, Smyrna, Ephesus, Mitylene, the Dardanelles, Constantinople, Athens, Eleusis, and the Gulf of Corinth. Of course, as the author himself remarks, his notes were taken "before there were any signs of the present Oriental disturbances, and the observations made are therefore uncoloured by any expectation of the existing state of affairs." It redounds to his honour that there is a copious index.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The fairy romances and other literary and artistic creations of pure fancy designed for the entertainment of the juvenile mind at this season have had a share of our notice. We have yet to speak of *Prince Ritto*; or, *The Four-Leaved Shamrock*, by Fanny W. Currey (Sampson Low and Co.), which is an elegant small volume, printed on fine and thick paper, with ten autotype reproductions of original drawings by Helen O'Hara. Both those ladies, whose names we are not enabled to announce with their due conventional titles, have thrown a dash of what may almost be called genius into their frolicsome work. It is the tale of a little brother and sister, the children of good King Hermin—somewhere in Ireland ages before the Curse of Cromwell—who were left under the guardianship of a treacherous and cruel Lord Deputy and his wife, during their father's absence at the wars. The persecutions and ill-treatment of poor Ritto and Lina engage our full sympathy, till the young Prince fortunately gets a specimen of that rare botanical variety which commands for him the aid of powerful elfin allies, and admits him to the enchanted realm of fairyland. The final discomfiture of the wicked old pair, and the happy return of King Hermin to his dear little son and daughter, are related with equal spirit. It is all very droll and very pretty, but the drawings are exceedingly clever, humorous and lively in conception, and most effectively rendered by the Woodburytype process, as by the fair artist's pencil.

We do not suppose anybody who made his acquaintance two or three years ago, thanks to Ennis Graham, will have forgotten dear little "Carrots—Just a Little Boy." It will therefore be good news to many readers that there is a new book of that class, by the same pleasing writer, which is called *The Cuckoo Clock* (Macmillan and Co.). It is a little girl named Griselda who has the privilege of holding converse with the wonderful cuckoo in the curious old clock, and she is enabled to travel into far-away regions, and to learn a great many remarkable things, by the assistance of this wise companion. "Children, try to be good!" is the end and aim of this agreeable piece of fiction. The illustrations, drawn by Walter Crane, are graceful and quite in character. Miss Clara Matéaux, in her *Woodland Romances* (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin), has versified a long series of "Fables and Fancies," with no slight degree of humour and vivacity; one of the first she takes in hand is that ancient Homeric parody, "The Battle of the Frogs and Mice." Almost every page is adorned with spirited illustrations engraved on wood; this book is one of the best for little boys and girls. In a small volume entitled *Topo* (Marcus Ward and Co., publishers), which is a tale about some English children in Italy, by G. E. Bruneille, we find many charming illustrations, engraved from Miss Kate Greenaway's pen-and-ink drawings; the narrative also of these children's adventures is worth reading. "Topo" is the Italian for "Mouse," and is the nickname given to a certain little girl, who is always in small mischief, but is not so very naughty after all. *The Tales, Poetry, and Fairy Tales of Walter Brown* (published by the author, 220, Great Portland-street) are illustrated by a large number of Bewick's designs, printed from the original blocks of his engravings, which will doubtless recommend the little book to many persons of taste.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

We regret that we have not space for numerous appeals received on behalf of charitable institutions.

After an interval of five years, the "Adelphi" of Terence has been this year placed upon the stage by the Queen's scholars at Westminster.

Professor Huxley gave a lecture at the London Institution last Monday on "The Extinct Animals termed Belemnites, and their Ancient and Modern Allies."

The banquet to inaugurate the year of office of the new Sheriffs, Messrs. Nottage and Staples, was given on Tuesday evening at Stationers' Hall.

The annual dinner of the Society of Engineers took place on Tuesday evening at the Guildhall Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Cargill, C.E.

The annual distribution of prizes to the 48th Middlesex Volunteers took place on Wednesday at St. James's Hall; and the prizes of the 4th Middlesex (West London) will be presented this evening, at St. George's Hall.

Sir Andrew Lusk, M.P., presided on the 14th inst. at a public meeting in Myddelton Hall, Islington, for the purpose of giving information on the scope and operation of the Public Libraries Acts, and on their proposed adoption in Islington.

The Rev. Stopford Brooke gave, in connection with the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, a lecture on "Wordsworth and Shelley as Influenced by the French Revolution," last Saturday, in the Theatre of the Society of Arts.

The annual meeting of the committee of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund was held on Tuesday. The fund had realised £26,082, a slight decrease upon last year, and this circumstance was attributed to the depression in trade. June 30 was fixed as the date of the collection next year.

The metropolitan annual market, which is to furnish the supplies of meat for Christmas, was held on Monday. The number of beasts exhibited was 7510, the number last year being 7020. There was a thin representation of foreign stock; and as regards sheep the supply fell considerably short of that of twelve months ago.

Speech-day at Merchant Taylors' School was celebrated on Monday, and in the evening the master and wardens of the company entertained a distinguished circle of guests at dinner. On the same day the Lord Mayor presided at the distribution of exhibitions and prizes to the pupils of the Haberdashers' Hoxton School.

Sir John Bennett, in acknowledging receipt of a cheque for £600, the first instalment of subscriptions received towards defraying the expenses he has incurred in the recent contest in the ward of Cheap, proposes to apply that and any further sum he may receive to the founding of a scholarship to be contended for by the children in the board schools of the City.

At Wednesday's weekly meeting of the School Board for London—Sir Charles Reed in the chair—the annual reports of the board inspectors were presented, and their consideration was postponed till after the Christmas recess. Various recommendations made by the by-laws committee as to the duties and the salaries of visitors were agreed to; and the board adjourned over Christmas, till Jan. 9.

Mr. John Holms, M.P., presided at the twenty-third anniversary festival of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, which was held on the 13th inst. at the Freemasons' Tavern. He explained that, as the new wing would accommodate one hundred additional children, the annual income would require to be raised to £9000 or £10,000. He therefore made a special appeal, and about £800 was contributed.

A court of the Worshipful Company of Turners was held on Thursday in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, when the freedom and livery of the Company were presented to the Rev. Robert Moffatt, D.D., F.R.G.S., the African Missionary, in consideration of his services to civilisation and geographical discoveries in Southern Africa. The Lord Mayor presided.

The Court of Common Council has adopted a scheme for placing hydrants in the streets of the City, with a view of throwing jets of water upon fires without the intervention of fire-engines. Some new streets have been already supplied with hydrants, although the requisite pressure has not yet been provided by the New River Company, and what remains to be done will cost upwards of £14,000.

The Mansion House Indian Famine Fund has reached £490,400, and at a meeting of the committee on Monday a further remittance of £5000 was ordered, making £175,000 which has been sent to India. Attention was called to the work being done at Colar, Mysore, by Miss Austey, an English lady, who has undertaken the care of 500 caste children, rendered orphans by the famine. The committee adjourned for a month.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Society the following were elected foreign members:—Marcellin Berthelot, of Paris; Joseph Dechaune, of Paris; Emil Dubois Reymond, of Berlin; Adolph Wilhelm Hermann Kolbe, of Leipsic; Rudolph Leuckart, of Leipsic; Simon Newcomb, of Washington; and Pafnutij Tscheytschew, of St. Petersburg. By this election the foreign list of the society is made up to its full complement of fifty members.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers at the end of the second week of December was 82,550, of whom 39,978 were in workhouses, and 42,572 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding week in the years 1876, 1875, and 1874, these figures show a decrease of 781, 5191, and 13,329 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 764, of whom 544 were men, 177 women, and 43 children.

Among the most recent additions to the "special shows" of the Aquarium, is the exhibition, by M. Farini, of a collection of monkeys, including a chimpanzee. The exhibition is completed by the performances of Louala, an Abyssinian female snake tamer or charmer, who coils a boa constrictor, about ten feet in length, round her waist, and plays with three anacondas, holding them out at arm's length, allowing them to wind round her arms and swing themselves about.

A meeting of the Stafford House Committee was held on the 14th inst., at which Mr. Barrington Kennett was present, and gave a full and most satisfactory account of the work of the committee in Central and Asiatic Turkey. Upwards of 20,000 sick and wounded soldiers have been attended by the surgeons of the committee, and have received food on their way from the front; and at the present moment upwards of 1000 men are under treatment in the permanent hospitals, independently of the field ambulances.

Lord Sandon received on Monday a deputation representing provincial school boards on the subject of the certificate of birth. It was stated that there were twenty large provincial boards which agreed in asking for delay in the enforcement of the certificate of birth in the child's school-book. The requirement would tend to keep children away from school and cast an additional burden upon the ratepayers. Lord Sandon thought that sufficient time had been given for the consideration of the question. The department would determine what should be done in regard to children who had not been registered.

The Metropolitan Board of Works received on the 14th inst., from its general purposes committee, a report in reply to the recommendations of the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. The board adopted the report, which urges that no sufficient reason has been alleged for withdrawing the duty of extinguishing fires from the board; and that what is wanted for the greater efficiency of the brigade is that both it and the water supply shall be under one management. Sir William Codrington, K.C.B., having tendered his resignation as member, a resolution expressing regret at the loss of his services was passed.

The Westminster Hospital, closed last May for the thorough repair of the building and for some structural adaptations to the advanced sanitary requirements of the present day, is reopened, and its ordinary work resumed in all the various departments. Thus renovated, it has recommenced a career of public usefulness, begun in 1719, as the pioneer of the voluntary principle of support of medical charitable institutions now universal throughout the kingdom; and the committee venture to anticipate during the approaching Christmas season, some additional help towards this work of undoubted and enduring public utility.

There were 2542 births and 1613 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 110, and the deaths were 184 below, the average. The deaths included 31 from smallpox, 22 from measles, 51 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 95 from whooping-cough, 26 from different forms of fever, and 10 from diarrhoea. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 417 and 397 in the two previous weeks, rose again to 415 last week, but were 81 below the corrected average: 265 resulted from bronchitis and 104 from pneumonia. In Greater London 3018 births and 1890 deaths were registered. The mean temperature was 39.0 deg.

A long room in one of the western galleries of the Kensington Museum was on Friday and Saturday last filled with specimens of needlework done in London elementary schools, and exhibited for the prizes of the "London School Association for the Improvement of Elementary Needlework." The first exhibition of the association was held last year, and opened by Princess Louise. Mrs. Dudley Rider opened the exhibition, and Lady Reed distributed the prizes. The examination of the large collection of objects exhibited had previously occupied the judges two entire days. They have adjudged the prize for the greatest number of successful pieces of work to Mrs. Harvey, of St. Mary's School, Putney, who won the same distinction last year. The mistress of an infant school who earns a similar honour in her class is Mrs. Brasseur, of St. John's School, Chance-square, Stratford.—A different kind of needlework exhibition is announced for this week. Those who are curious in such matters had an opportunity of seeing a bazaar which was held on Tuesday and the two next days at the Royal Normal College for the Blind, at Sydenham—a portion of the late Miss Linwood's celebrated art-needlework pictures.

At a meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, the following resolution was passed:—"That, in view of the present deplorable state of trade in the country, and as the commerce of this district is in great measure suspended, owing to the threatening aspect of affairs, a special meeting of the directors be summoned for Friday next to consider a memorial shall be sent to Government in favour of continued neutrality in the war between Russia and Turkey."



TEMPLE BAR AND THE NEW LAW COURTS A MONTH AGO.

TEMPLE BAR.

The contractors, Messrs. Mowlem, Burt, and Co., who have commenced the removal of Temple Bar, agreeably to the resolution of the Common Council of London, will not be long in doing their work. We present Illustrations of the appearance of the infirm old structure, with the adjacent New Law Courts building, as they were about a month since, and a view of Temple Bar, looking west, in the condition in which it was before the propping, which alone has enabled it to stand during the last year or two. Everybody knows that Temple Bar, now being demolished, is the last of the old postern gates of the city of London. It marks the boundary of the Liberty of the City westward. This was formerly marked by posts, rails, and a chain, as was the case at Holborn, Smithfield, and Whitechapel, where the old Bars have long ceased to exist. The antiquary Strype records that, after the posts and rails were removed, a house of timber was erected across the street, with a narrow gateway and an entry on the south side of it, under the house. It is supposed that, so early as the first few years of the sixteenth century, a custodian or governor was appointed to reside at Temple Bar. For full particulars of the history of this archway and of Fleet-street, our readers cannot do better than peruse Mr. Noble's "Memorials of Temple Bar," which is full of interesting anecdotes concerning it. The old wooden structure of Temple

Bar stood until after the Great Fire, in 1666, when it was taken down, being considered dangerous, partly on account of its age and partly by reason of its being constructed of wood. Even at that time, we read, there was considerable delay and opposition to the removal. This was effected, however, about 1670; and in 1672 the present archway, of Portland stone, which was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, was completed. An illustration of the original wooden bar was given in the *Illustrated London News* on March 28, 1863. The building of 1672 is familiar to every Englishman or foreigner who has visited London. On the east side, in niches, are the statues of King James I. and his Queen, Anne of Denmark; on the west side, those of King Charles I. and Charles II.—all sculptured by John Bushnell, for which the Corporation paid him £480. There are some points of historical interest. One of the old and curious customs of the City is, that whenever the Sovereign paid a visit to the citizens the gates were to be closed. A herald must then sound a trumpet before the gate, and another must knock. A parley would ensue; the gates would then be thrown open, and the Lord Mayor would hand the sword of the City to the Sovereign, who would graciously return it. This ceremony has been repeatedly observed down to our own time. Temple Bar used formerly to be disfigured with the heads and quarters of traitors. Those of Sir Thomas Armstrong, Sir William Perkins, and Sir John Freind were exhibited upon Temple Bar. The two latter suffered

death upon a charge of having plotted to assassinate King William III. But the last heads which were spitted upon Temple Bar were those of Townley and Fletcher, after the Jacobite rebellion of 1745. The room over the Bar has been rented on lease by Messrs. Child and Co., from the Corporation ever since it was built. It was used by them, up to the time that the keystone slipped, and the Bar began to crack, in July, 1874, as a receptacle for their old ledgers and other books,—a vast number of interesting and valuable papers, including old cheques, bank-notes, and letters, many of them bearing the autographs of persons of historical interest, such as those of Nell Gwyn, Titus Oates, the Duchess of Cleveland, &c. There was only one entrance to the room over the archway, and that was approached through the first floor front room of the adjacent house.

THE POOR SEAMSTRESS.

Lonely poverty, when the common observance of a sacred festival has for one day brought a pause to its ill-rewarded toil, presents a condition of human life to our view that claims the respectful sympathy of those in happier or easier circumstances. This is the sentiment which our Artist has designed to express by representing the attitude of a young person who has risen on the morning of Christmas Day to a solitary and retired acceptance of its simple boon of rest, accompanied by



THE POOR SEAMSTRESS ON CHRISTMAS MORNING.

the recollection of its "hallowed and gracious" associations with the only true source of religious consolation. Her modest preparations for the adornment of her little chamber upon this occasion with a few sprigs of holly, and, we would fain hope, also for some little addition to her scanty repast at noon or eve, will not be contemplated without an emotion of tenderness, amidst the jovial bustle and lavish display of Christmas cheer in more comfortable households. It is touching, indeed, to reflect that she may have left or lost a home of her childhood, in which this glad season was formerly wont to be kept by her parents, brothers and sisters, and many kind friends, in a free and hearty outburst of social glee, softened by family affection. Her lot in life, whether by unavoidable misfortune, by the cruelty and injustice of others, or by such an error of conduct on her own part as is seldom forgiven to a woman, has become a hard and sad lot indeed, and it is as much as we can hope for her now that she should be able merely to earn her bread. There are too many "poor seamstresses" who cannot even do that.

JUNKS IN NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

We published last week an Engraving of the picture representing Junks in Nagasaki Harbour, Japan, painted by Lieutenant-Colonel Walter Fane, C.B., commandant of H.M.'s 18th Bengal Lancers, an officer who is as celebrated for gallant conduct on the field of battle, as for his talent with the pencil.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fane began his military career as a cadet in the Queen's Indian Army, in 1845. He soon showed

himself to be an officer of great promise. Shortly after his arrival in India he was appointed Adjutant of the 3rd Punjab Irregular Cavalry, and was afterwards second in command of the 1st Punjab Irregular Cavalry. With these two regiments he was present at several affairs against the Hill Tribes on the North-West Frontier. He received the Frontier medal for those services. On his return to India, in 1858, from sick leave in England, he was immediately nominated to the Acting-Commandantship of the 4th Sikh Irregular Cavalry. At the head of that corps he formed a part of the column, under General Showers, which successfully followed up, and eventually captured, the renowned rebel leader Tantia Toppe. For his services during this period, Colonel Fane was specially mentioned in despatches. At the outbreak of hostilities with China, in 1860, this officer was selected by Lord Clyde, then Commander-in-Chief in India, to raise a regiment of Irregular Horse for service in China. This corps, recruited from the soldier-like classes of the Punjab, and from the wild and warlike tribes of Afghanistan, was raised, armed, equipped, and ready for service in three months, and within that time performed a march of many hundred miles from Delhi to Calcutta, the port of embarkation. During the campaign in China, in 1860-61, this regiment, thenceforward known by the sobriquet of "Fane's Horse," was ever to the front. It was present at the taking of the Taku Forts, the action of Chan-Ki-a-Wan, and the final capture of Peking. For his services there Colonel Fane was rewarded with a Brevet-Majority, also with medal and clasps. In 1868, he was again employed on active service in the Huzara campaign, on the North-West Frontier, under General Sir A. Wilde. In 1871, for his long and gallant

services, he was rewarded with the Companionship of the Order of the Bath. During his career in India, and whilst on service in China, Colonel Fane occupied his spare moments in transferring to canvas his recollections of many of the stirring scenes which he had witnessed. We believe his lifelike and faithful sketches cannot fail to prove as interesting to all lovers of art as they have hitherto been to those who were present with him during those exciting periods of his life.

We hear it announced that Colonel Fane may possibly, ere long, be induced to quit the country in which he has hitherto gained such renown, and devote himself more exclusively to his pencil in quieter scenes at home. If this should prove the case, we offer him our best wishes, and trust that the success may hereafter attend him which his undoubted talent deserves. Colonel Fane won the highest prizes at a competitive exhibition of the works of amateur artists in the Indian services. The picture from which our Engraving was taken was purchased by the Earl of Northbrook, late Viceroy of India.

A Grand Provincial Lodge of Freemasons of North Wales and Shropshire was held at Shrewsbury on the 14th inst., when a presentation was made to Sir William Watkin Wynn, M.P., who has held the office of Provincial Grand Master for twenty-five years. The presentation consists of an address, an album, and the sum of £500, with which a vice-patronship will be obtained for Sir Watkin in the Royal Masonic Institution, enabling him to obtain the admission of a boy without the usual votes. A banquet, numerous attended, subsequently took place.

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HER MAJESTY RETURNING THROUGH HIGH WYCOMBE FROM HUGHENDEN MANOR.



HUGHENDEN MANOR HOUSE, THE SEAT OF LORD BEACONSFIELD, VISITED BY HER MAJESTY.

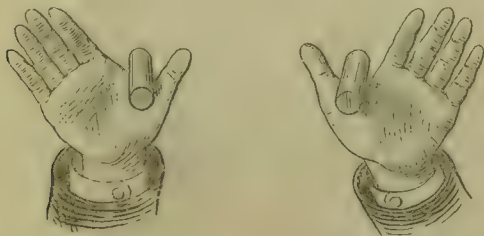
OUR CHRISTMAS CONJUROR.

BY PROFESSOR HOFFMANN.

AUTHOR OF "MODERN MAGIC," &c.

Among the many family circles assembled to do honour to Christmas in English homes, I doubt if a merrier could well have been found than was gathered under my grandfather's roof in the year 187—. The house, a large and roomy one, just on the outskirts of London, afforded ample accommodation for a numerous party, and its resources were employed to the fullest extent. It was a time-honoured custom that all the children and grandchildren of our host, not to mention sundry more distant relatives, should assemble for a week at Christmas under the paternal roof-tree. Many of the party only met at this annual gathering, which was always looked forward to with joyful anticipation by young and old. On the present occasion we were, if possible, even merrier than usual, for we numbered among our party an indefatigable promoter of fun and frolic in the person of Mr. Richard Leslie, more familiarly known as "Uncle Dick." He had but just returned from China, where he had been sojourning for several years, and so was a comparative stranger to the younger members of the family; but his inexhaustible spirits and unflinching fun had won all hearts, and even little three-year-old Maggie developed distinctly flirtatious propensities whenever she could get hold of Uncle Dick. Christmas Eve was always kept with special honour, and on the present occasion it promised to have even more than usual attractions, for not only was Uncle Dick (who had been kept away by business for two days) coming himself, but he was to bring with him a wonderful German conjuror whom he had met with in his travels, and the report of whose marvellous doings had formed the stock topic of conversation among the young ones for several evenings past, and had gradually acquired almost a ghost-story flavour.

Tea was over, and we had already arranged rows of chairs in the front drawing-room to seat the expectant audience, with a line of hassocks in front for the smallest spectators, when a thundering rat-a-tat was heard at the door. "There he is! There's Uncle Dick!" said a small cousin, clapping his hands. "No, he isn't," said another, with the calmer judgment of one size larger. "That isn't Uncle Dick's knock." Further speculation was suspended by the entrance of Mary, the parlour-maid, bearing a card with the inscription, "Herr Schwindel," and a letter in the well-known handwriting of Uncle Dick. A painful foreboding fell upon the whole party, and there was quite a shout of relief when my grandfather, having glanced at the note, said, "It's all right, boys and girls. Uncle Dick is detained in the City, but not for long. He says he will be sure to be with us in the course of the evening, and meanwhile his friend, Herr Schwindel, will amuse us till he comes. Show the gentleman in, Mary." All eyes were turned towards the door. The wonderful magician proved to be a man of about fifty years of age, with an enormous white-brown moustache, and eyebrows to match. He wore blue spectacles, and a coat with fur collar and cuffs, and carried a little black bag, on which the younger members of the company gazed with awe, as the probable receptacle of death's-heads and cross-bones, and other articles of a ghostly description. He entered with his hat, a high-crowned felt, in one hand, and the mysterious bag in the other, bowing on all sides with Continental profuseness. There was no need to proclaim his nationality; he was German from the crown of his head to the soles of his boots. On his entrance our little Skye terrier, Smut, the pet and plaything of the party, set up a frantic barking. "Ah! ze leetel vee tog!" said the Professor. "Vat for you make row-row-row? Come here, and I will conjure you!" and forthwith he began to make mesmeric passes at the dog, which, strange to say, after a few moments ceased to bark, and wagged her tail with every appearance of satisfaction. There was a distinct sensation, even among the elders. Ordinary conjuring they were prepared for, but there was something "no canny," as the Scotch say, about this sudden taming of a dumb animal, particularly one who, like Smut, was noted for her inveterate hostility to strangers. "Von, two, tree!" said the Herr, with a final sweep. "He will not bark at me not never no more. Ich bin traurig!"—he continued, "I am sorry zat mine so good frent Herr Leslie vas not come mit me, but he tell me he come so soon as no time at all. He ask me to show (this word he pronounced as if it rhymed to 'cow') ze younk ladies and jentlemens von, two, tree leetle trick of die taschenspieler—vat you call jump-a-bank. No; zat is not right. Vot you call him? Mountabank—zat is it. I speak ze English ver pretty vell, but von time I forget von leetle vorts. You vas all sit down, and I begin." So saying, he took off his heavy fur coat, and appeared in evening dress, with an extensive embroidered shirt-front, in the centre of which blazed an enormous diamond breast-pin. "Won't you take a glass of wine before you begin?" said my grandfather. After a little pressing, the Professor accepted a glass of claret, which he sipped with great gusto. The cork was lying on the table, and caught the conjuror's eye. "Ach! here is von cork," he exclaimed, picking it up. "I show you mit him von leetle pozzle. Bot ze von cork is not enof. No matter; I make anoder." And, rolling the cork between his hands, forthwith it became two. "Das ist sehr gut—dat is nice! Now I take de von cork between my finger and thomb, like so, and de oder mit de oder finger and thomb (see Fig. 1); den, mit dis finger and thomb I take dat cork, and mit dat finger and thomb I take dis cork, and it is finish. De corks is change."

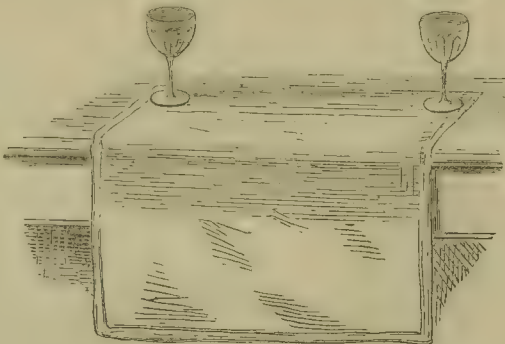


The corks had certainly changed hands, but there did not seem to be any difficulty about the matter. "Not much puzzle in that," remarked cousin Augustus—a haughty young man, fresh from the grandeur of his first term at Oxford, and who had acquired a weird and awful reputation among the young ones by remarking that he knew how all the tricks were done, and he should like to see the conjuror who could take him in. "Ha! vat you say? Not moch pozzle!" exclaimed the conjuror. "Not moch pozzle! Den you do him yourself!" Nothing loth, the haughty Augustus took the corks, as Herr Schwindel had done, nipped each between the opposite finger and thumb, and endeavoured to draw his hands apart. But, to his shame and confusion, they declined to come apart. Each thumb and finger, with the cork they bore, formed one link of a chain (see

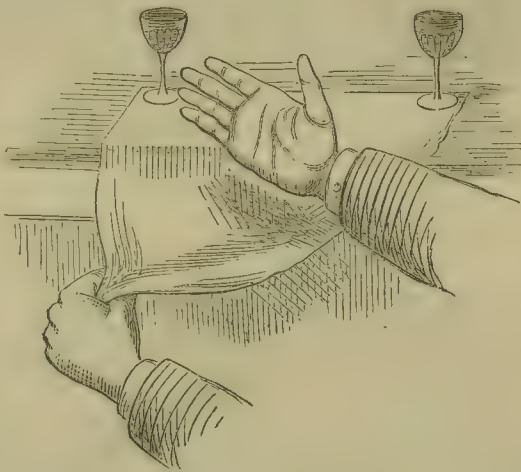
Fig. 2), and there was no breaking the chain save by letting go one or other of the corks.



After Cousin Augustus, others of the party, procuring a further supply of corks, commenced experiments on their own account, with no better success. "Not moch pozzle! I tink he is too moch pozzle for you. I show you vonce again;" and, taking the corks, the Professor again waved them apart with airy grace. There was no show of sleight-of-hand, but each to all appearance passed completely through the other. "You haf not find him out! Den I show you anozzer. Vill von of the so kind younk ladies lent me von taschentuch—vat you call hankerfish?—Ich danke—I tank you!" He spread the borrowed handkerchief so that about one fourth of its width lay along the edge of the polished oak dining-table, the remainder hanging down, and secured it in that position by placing a wine-glass on each of the two upper corners (see Fig. 4). He then filled each glass to the very brim with claret. "Dere is anozzer leetle pozzle," he said, addressing himself particularly to the haughty Augustus.



"You take away de hankerfish vidout to spill de goot Rheinwein, and you sall drink him, efery drop." Augustus put forth a hesitating hand and tried to coax the handkerchief away; but the only result was to spill a portion of the wine. Nobody else would venture to attempt the seeming impossibility. "Ha! you gif him up?" said the Professor. "Es ist sehr leicht—it is ver easy!" So saying, he gathered up with his left hand the hanging portion of the handkerchief, and, making a sort of downward "chop" with the right (see Fig. 5),



the handkerchief was thereby jerked away, without disturbing the glasses in the least. "I haf take away de hankerfish, and now I tink de vine"—which he did accordingly. "But dis is noting—noting at all. You sit yourselves down, and I show you de vunderful vonders of die taschenspieler-kunst—de art magique; how you call him?—conjuror-trick." The audience were quickly marshalled to their seats, and the Professor began, turning back his sleeves in the approved professional manner.

"Mein Herren und Damen!—Ladies und Jentlemens,—I come before you to show you conjuror-trick ohne apparat—mitout apparatus. No prepare—no mechanik, no noting. I haf only one two tree leetel ting in mine leetel bag." Here he rummaged in the bag, and produced an ebony wand covered with cabalistic characters. "Here is mine leetel stick, mine magic wand. If you take hold dis leetel stick, and I say 'Go away!' you go, go, go, and never stop no more, away to de ewigkeit. Aha! you lauf? Mine vort, it is true, so true as noting. Nevare mind; I will not mine so great power abuse. Who is dere vill lend me von schelling and von leetel hankerfish? Dat is goot." He spread the handkerchief on a small round table which stood ready to hand, and laid the shilling, carefully marked by the great Augustus, in its centre; then folded over the four corners in succession upon it, making us feel at each stage that the coin was still there. Then, inserting two of the fingers of each hand within the nearest fold of the handkerchief (see Fig. 6) he said, "Von, two, tree—pass!" and, drawing them rapidly apart, lifted the handkerchief from the table, and gave it a smart shake. The coin had utterly disappeared. "Aha! you no see him go. I see him. He go to de shoe of dis young lady;" and, kneeling down before our little Maggie, who occupied a reserved hassock in the front row, whipped off one of her shoes, and, shaking it, out dropped the shilling, the mark upon it attesting its identity. "Ah! it is ver fly-away money. I gif you von leetel box to keep him safe." He dived into the black bag, and produced therefrom an ordinary pill-box, which was freely passed from hand to hand. It was a good honest common card pill-box. "You keep your monies in dis leetel box," continued the Professor, when it was returned to him; "and no tief he steal dem nevare no more. I pray you, look mit all your eyes. I put de leetel shilling in dis leetel box" (which he did accordingly in the most unmistakable manner). "I shut him up. I haf no lock, no key, no noting; but I take mine leetel stick and I say, 'Money, mine nice bright schelling, go hide yourself! De tief he come; and

when de tief he come, de money he hide away, and de tief no find him." So saying, he shook the box. There was no sound. He opened it, and showed it empty. Again he shut it, and a score of eager eyes could testify that he introduced nothing; but he resumed, "De tief he find noting; he gone away. I say, mine leetel shilling, come back!" He shook the box once more, and the coin rattled within it. He opened it, and turning it over, the shilling fell out into his hand. He passed it to the owner, and with it the marvellous pill-box. A sceptic whispered "false bottom," and forthwith both top and bottom of the box were poked completely out by eager fingers. But all in vain—each was but a single thickness of card, and the marvel remained wholly unaccounted for.

The handkerchief borrowed for the purpose of the former trick still remained on the table. Herr Schwindel took it up by its middle, letting the four corners hang down. "Aha! ze leetel hankerfish, ze nice leetel hankerfish, I mesmerise him, and you sall see vat you sall see. I take him, so! I kiss him for his moder, I stroke him for his fader" (suing the action to the word), "and he give me nice leetel sweetmeat for de younk ladies and jentlemens." So saying, he passed backwards and forwards in front of the spectators, at every step shaking from the handkerchief, into the outstretched hands and laps of the youngsters, bonbons of various descriptions.

Ere the applause called forth by this last feat had fully subsided, the Professor dived into the mysterious bag, and produced therefrom a little black bottle, of champagne shape, and about four inches in height. He said, "Here is de vunderful Bottle Imp, vat never lie down for nobody, till I conjure him, and den he lie down as quiet as de littel vee dog." Smut, who was watching the proceedings with great interest, conceiving herself appealed to, responded with a short, quick bark of approbation. Herr Schwindel laid the bottle on its side, but it instantly rose again to an erect position, and we then perceived that it was rounded at the bottom, after the manner of the dancing dolls of the toy-shops, and so weighted as always to keep upright. The bottle was handed round for inspection, and we all did our utmost to make it lie down, but without success. "You no make him lie down?" said the Herr. "I show you; look!" So saying, he took out the cork, blew into the bottle, and again corked it; when, behold, it lay down in the most obliging manner.

"I know how that's done," exclaimed the lofty Augustus, who had not forgiven the Professor his former discomfiture, and now proceeded, as he thought, to pour confusion on his head. "What about the little piece of wire inside?" "Vire," responded the Professor, "vat you call vire? It is not soda-wasser bottle. I haf not got no vire." "No," said Augustus, "what do you call this, then?" and taking out the cork he inverted the bottle, but nothing fell out. He shook it, but it was obviously empty. The haughty Augustus was completely dumbfounded. "I thought—" he stammered. "I mean, I didn't think—" and there he stopped. The Professor beamed at him benevolently through his blue spectacles. "Mine younk frient, it is not goot to know too moch. It is as say your own the never-enof-to-be-praised, ze immortal Williams, 'Zere are more tings in de heafen and de earth dan you vas dream of in your philosophie.' Once more he blew in the bottle, which again obstinately refused to be laid down. Again he blew, and the bottle assumed the horizontal position without a murmur. We, too, blew and blew in every possible manner, but without the slightest result. The bottle would obey no one but its owner.

The Professor's next feat was an illustration of his powers of divination. Taking a handful of counters, he arranged them in the form of the letter Q on the table. He then requested that one of the company would, in his absence, count from the tip of the tail to any counter he pleased, and then back again from such counter round the circle in the opposite direction, when he would tell us by some magic process the last counter touched. The process was gone through accordingly, the Professor meanwhile retiring to the hall, where, as we afterwards learned, he kissed Mary, the parlour-maid, and added insult to injury by telling her that he could not help it, she was so like his poor dear mother. When recalled, he advanced to the table, and touched sundry of the counters with his magic wand. There was no result until he reached the counter which we had last touched, when his whole frame was convulsed by (apparently) a violent electric shock, and he announced that we had terminated with that particular counter. The experiment was twice repeated, the Q being made to consist each time of a different number of counters; but Herr Schwindel was infallible, and pointed out the terminating counter on each occasion with unerring accuracy.

This feat produced a decided sensation. We had felt that the preceding tricks were probably dependent on some clever sleight-of-hand, but this bordered on the supernatural. We were quite sure that the Professor had no confederate among ourselves; and the drawing-room doors were of the most substantial make; and yet by some mysterious faculty he appeared to know what was done in his absence, just as well as if he had remained in the room the whole time. Dear old grandmamma was heard to murmur that she "hoped it was all right;" and Aunt Letty, an elderly spinster of a romantic turn, and suspected of spiritualistic tendencies, whispered to her next neighbour that the Professor was evidently a powerful clairvoyant. "You tink dat is vunderful?" said the Herr; "Mein Gott! dat is noding at all. I show you de genuine spiritism. Ach so! Dat is vunderful. Yes; who is dere vill lend me sechelling—goot silber schelling?" Shillings were offered in various quarters, but Aunt Letty's was accepted, to her evident gratification. She was requested to mark it, which she did with great minuteness. Taking a champagne glass of the tall, old-fashioned kind in his right hand, the Herr dropped the shilling into it, and then, holding it high in sight of all, made mesmeric passes towards it. We waited in breathless expectation, none the less exciting that none of us knew what was likely to happen. Nothing did happen, and, at Herr Schwindel's request, the gas was turned down to a "dim, religious light." After a few more minutes of expectation and renewed passes on the part of the performer, the coin began to "clink" in the glass. "Aha!" said the Professor, "he vake up at last. Now you vill all please ver moch silence." There was a general hush. "Is dere any spirits in de glass?" The coin clinked violently. "How vas you say 'Yes?'" The coin clinked three times. "How vas you say 'Nein'—what you call 'No?'" The coin clinked twice. "How vas you count de numbers?" The coin rang out several strokes in regular succession. "Now ve see vedder you tell true," said the Professor. "Vich younk lady vill be marry first? Is it dis lady? Is it dis lady?" indicating one after another with his wand. At each question the coin rang out twice, till he reached cousin Amy, a fair damsel who had just achieved the dignity of being "engaged," when it struck "three" with great distinctness. "Ah! mine pretty fraulein, de spirits haf find you out. Now ve vill demand if dey vill know de moch fortunate younk jentleman. Ist er hier? Is he of de now present company?" The coin responded in the affirmative. Several candidates were suggested and rejected, the real Simon Pure doing his best to look

as unconscious as possible, but being picked out by the coin in the most unhesitating manner. Matters now began to be serious. Grandmamma again expressed her hope that it was all right, in a tone which conveyed that she decidedly feared that it was not; and sundry others of the elders began to question in whispers whether this kind of thing was "quite proper for the children." The Professor, apparently quite unconscious of the sensation he was creating, proceeded with his queries. "Haben sie—is dere any spirit dat haf for dis company any message?" There was a prompt reply in the affirmative. A question was next asked as to the person for whom the communication was intended, and the coin ultimately designated Aunt Letty, who was thereby thrown into a flutter of pleased excitement, not unmixed with nervousness. "Would you mind asking the spirit what his name is?" she simpered. There was a general smile at Aunt Letty's decided assumption that the spirit was a "he;" but the magician proceeded with the utmost gravity to put the question as desired. He then requested Aunt Letty to repeat the alphabet slowly, telling her the spirits would make the coin sound when she reached the right letter. There was a breathless silence. Aunt Letty repeated her alphabet as far as the letter P, when the coin sounded. With increasing emotion she began again, until the spirits had spelt out the word "Podger." Now there was a family tradition that Aunt Letty had been in earlier life beloved by a Captain Podger, a naval gentleman of surpassing bravery. He had never actually proposed, but it was understood in the family that he would have done so had time permitted, but he unfortunately came to an untimely end, having died of gout in the stomach at the age of sixty-five. Aunt Letty was known to cherish his memory accordingly, and always intimated that she remained a spinster for his sake.

The excitement was tremendous. Aunt Letty nerved herself to proceed. "Can you give me any proof of your identity?" she asked. The coin struck thrice, in the affirmative. The spelling process was repeated, and the coin, to the astonishment of all present, spelt out "Wooden Leg." Now, it was a curious fact that the departed Podger had lost a leg, and the proof of his identity was therefore of the completest character. Notwithstanding the somewhat peculiar character of the token given, nobody felt inclined to smile, till Aunt Letty exclaimed, with intense feeling, "Poor dear George! Then he wears it still!"

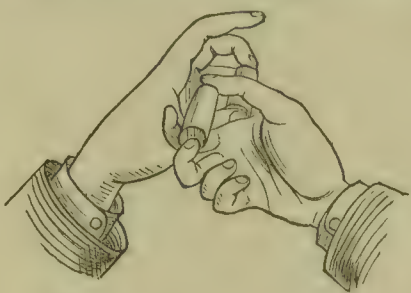
The idea of a spirit with a wooden leg was too much for the most determined gravity. There was a general shout of laughter, Aunt Letty looking very indignant, and finally bursting into tears. But the most startling effect was that produced on the Professor himself. For a moment or two he looked profoundly unconscious, but it was evident that even he was not proof against the infection of the general merriment. The muscles of his face worked convulsively, in the vain effort to control his features; but it was of no avail. After a few ineffectual struggles he exclaimed, in the well-known accents of Uncle Dick, "Oh, Letty, Letty! you'll be the death of me!" and sunk into an arm-chair, where he absolutely rolled with laughter, while the charmed shilling, which we now saw to be attached to a thread, escaped from the glass and dangled ignominiously against his waistcoat. In an instant all was confusion. Uncle Dick was abused on all sides for having taken us in so scandalously. Cousin Amy said he ought to be ashamed of himself; and Aunt Letty left the room, mortally offended. Grandmamma declared she could forgive him anything except cutting off his whiskers, which he had been obliged to sacrifice to the exigencies of his part. At last, it was proposed by Master Reginald (a youngster fresh from school), and carried unanimously, that Uncle Dick should then and there tell us how all his tricks were done, and that on that condition alone should he receive general forgiveness. The culprit demurred for some time, under all sorts of pretexts, among others that he had acquired the knowledge of these mysteries as a Rosicrucian, and would be liable to unheard-of horrors if he revealed them. But his excuses were over-ruled, and he finally capitulated. He pulled off the long-haired German wig and the enormous moustache (which were forthwith confiscated by the junior members of the party), and, leaning back in his chair, said, "Do your worst, ladies and gentlemen. To part with any one of these cherished secrets is like having out one's best double-tooth; but I am at your mercy. Proceed!"

Half a dozen questions were instantly asked. Uncle Dick gave Amy's the preference. "How did I conjure the shilling out of the pill-box? Well, in the first place, I changed the shilling. This is the one I really put in the box." He took from his waistcoat-pocket a shilling, one side of which was completely covered with white paper pasted against it. "When I put it in the box, this papered side was uppermost, so when you looked in you saw, apparently, only the bottom of the box. The shilling, you see, exactly fits the box, so when I did not want it to rattle I shook the box sideways. When I did want it to sound, I shook it up and down. The genuine shilling remained in my hand all the time." "But how did you make the shilling disappear from the hankerchief?" said a voice. "You certainly put it fairly in the middle."

"Quite so, and on the top of it I put a little piece of bees-wax. When I folded the corner of the handkerchief over the shilling, I took care to press a little, so that the shilling should stick to the handkerchief, and when I drew apart the two corners the shilling came of its own accord into my right hand, from whence I dropped it when I shook Maggie's shoe." "But where did the sweets come from, Uncle Dick?" said a little niece of five. "Out of the handkerchief, to be sure," said Uncle Dick. "Oh, yes, of course; but how did they get into the handkerchief? That's what we want to know." "Oh, dear—oh, dear! Here are all my pet secrets flying away, one after the other. Won't you let me keep just this little one?" We sternly answered, "No!" "Well, if you must know, they were kept in this little bag." Uncle Dick pulled out of his pocket a little bag of sugar-loaf shape, with a hook formed of a bent pin at its smaller end. We examined it minutely, but were none the wiser. "This bag is filled with sugar-plums, and then a piece of very thin tissue paper is pasted over the mouth. The bag is then hung mouth downwards behind the table, this bent pin being hooked into the table-cover." "But I don't see now how the sweets are brought into the handkerchief," said Cousin Augustus. "Probably not, most noble Augustus; but calm your emotion, and all shall be made clear. You may remember that I threw the handkerchief flat on the table. When I picked it up again I took hold, through the stuff, of the bent pin; so that when I lifted it, the bag was in the middle, though concealed by the folds which hung down around it. When I pressed to mesmerise the handkerchief, I gave it a sly squeeze, which burst the tissue-paper, and caused the bag to shed its sweets. When they were all out, and you were all occupied in trying their flavour, I had plenty of opportunity to take the bag out of the handkerchief and pocket it."

"Dear me! how simple all these things are, when you know them," said Grandmamma. "But Dick, however could

you tell which counters we touched?" "I did not know what counters you touched, my dear mother; but I knew what counter you must necessarily leave off at. However far you may count up the left-hand side of the circle, when you count the same number back again you must necessarily reach the same number beyond the tail on the other side as there are counters in the tail itself. That is the reason I changed the arrangement of the counters each time, or you would very soon have noticed that the process always terminated with the same counter." "I don't quite see why that should be," said Grandpapa. "I dare say not," replied Uncle Dick. "It is not quite obvious at first, but if you try it half a dozen times with the counters, you can't fail to see the principle. It's as plain as A B C." "But what about the two corks, and that remarkable little bottle?" asked another voice. "The bottle is simplicity itself. Our friend Augustus here was quite right as to the principle, but he was a little behind the age. These bottles were at first sold with a little piece of stout wire, which, being secretly introduced, served as a counterweight, and kept the bottle lying down. But that was a clumsy expedient, and constantly liable to discovery. In this improved bottle, which I got from Mr. Bland, of Oxford-street, the same effect is produced by having two corks to the bottle, one of which is loaded with a little pellet of lead; and, in the act of blowing into the bottle, the one is exchanged for the other, according as we desire to make the bottle obedient or disobedient. The puzzle of passing the two corks from hand to hand is about the only thing I have shown you in which there is really 'no deception.' Observe, I will take the corks again, as at first (Fig. 1). Now, I have to take hold of each with the thumb and middle finger of the opposite hand. If I do so in the most natural and obvious way—namely, with the palms of both hands turned inwards, towards the body, the corks become crossed (Fig. 2), and cannot be got apart without loosing the hold of the fingers. But, if I turn the left palm outward, and the right inward, holding the former uppermost (Fig. 3),



the corks are clear of each other, and the hands come apart without the least difficulty, so. See; I'll do it again, very slowly. Try again, Augustus, my boy! That's better; but there is no need to go into those violent contortions. The movement is the simplest thing in the world; but you'll have to practice a good bit before you'll be able to execute it with that delicacy of touch for which my friend Herr Schwindel is so justly celebrated."

"But, how ever did you manage to turn the one cork into two?"

"By the simple expedient of having taken a second cork from my own pocket, and holding it concealed in my hand, when I picked up the other from the table. And now, I think I've told you everything. If anybody wants to know anything else, let him speak now, or for ever hold his peace." "How about the talking shilling?" said Augustus. "Oh! I thought that was only too painfully obvious. All would have gone capitally if it hadn't been for the unfortunate introduction of that 'wooden leg.' Poor dear Aunt Letty! I could have stood anything but that touching exclamation. A ghost with a wooden leg! Oh, my poor sides! It was '2 mutch,' as poor Artemus Ward says. It was a great shame, though; and I'm afraid it will take a long while before I am quite forgiven. As to the working of the trick, it's absurdly simple, like most of the spiritualistic swindles. The whole thing, literally, hangs by a thread. You have a piece of black silk thread fastened to the front of your waistcoat. (Here it is, you see.) At the free end there is a small pellet of bees' wax. I squeeze this against the coin, which naturally adheres to it, and so becomes attached to the thread. In this condition it is dropped into the glass, which I hold so as to have the thread barely taut, when the slightest extension of the arm or withdrawal of the body suffices to raise the coin half an inch or so, and the reverse movement lets it fall again, with an audible chink. How on earth the shilling got to know that Amy was engaged to Charley

Radcliffe, or that the deceased Captain Podger had a wooden leg, I really can't pretend to explain." "You are a good-for-nothing tease," said Amy; "and if Aunt Letty would forgive you, I won't. The only consolation is that you have had to sacrifice your whiskers, that you were so proud of." "Whiskers! my dear child," said Uncle Dick, sadly shaking his head; "I can assure you that the loss of my whiskers is the very smallest of my sacrifices. If you only knew the agony of having to smile and talk broken English with a folded table-cover inside the tightest part of one's dress-suit, not to mention the loss of self-respect involved in wearing a sixpenny diamond brooch in a hitherto respectable shirt-front, I believe you would shed a tear of sympathy even over the memory of Herr Schwindel."

THE KAFFIR WAR.

The recent campaign in the Trans-Kei territory, on the eastern frontier of the British South African Dominion, is the subject of a few more illustrations. That territory is occupied by several independent Kaffir tribes, among which the Amaxosa Kaffirs or Galekas number about 60,000, occupying the district near the seacoast from the Great Kei to the Bashee river, a space of fifty miles long by thirty broad. The colonial militia forces, supported by regular troops, under the direction of General Sir A. Cunyngame, K.C.B., went into the Galeka country, which they entered from Fingo-land by three routes—the Springs, Butterworth, and Ibeka, on Oct. 18 or 19. These places had been the scene of hostilities in the latter weeks of September, when small parties of the armed Frontier Police, and of the loyal Fingoes assisting them, were engaged with the enemy, and several Europeans were unfortunately killed. Amongst them was an officer of the Armed and Mounted Frontier Police, a German named Von Hohenen, an excellent soldier, who was slain at Gadwana Hill, or Mount Wodehouse, on Sept. 26, his Fingo allies having fled before an overwhelming host of their foes. The savages cut off his feet, and likewise his scalp, with the skin of his face, leaving the body in that state. The fate of the two brothers Goss, who were shot down, with eighteen of their Fingo followers, by a party of nine Galekas at bay in a kloof or ravine, is another memorable incident of this border warfare. Our sketches are by Lieutenant Nevill J. A. Coghill, of the 24th Regiment, aide-de-camp to Sir Arthur Cunyngame. They include, besides the places which were the scenes of the recent affairs we have mentioned, a view of "Mordners' Kop," on the Kei river, where five British officers were killed in a former Kaffir war. The camp of Commandant Griffith at Luisizie, between the Mxaxa and Cogha rivers, where he halted after clearing the Manubie bush of the enemy, is also shown in one of these sketches. Kreli has now been driven across the Bashee, into the territory of the Bomvana tribe. The British military head-quarters are fixed at Fort Bowker, preparing a fresh attack upon Kreli from the north.

The prizes were distributed on Tuesday to the gentlemen cadets of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, by General Sir C. Ellice, who represented the Duke of Cambridge. The report of the examiners was satisfactory in every respect.

The final trial of the Northampton, one of the most powerful war-ships afloat, was made on Tuesday, and proved so satisfactory that the ship has been formally taken over by the Admiralty.

The last of a series of four lectures upon "War and Commerce," in connection with the Trades Guild of Learning, was given on Monday night by Mr. R. Stewart Lane, the secretary to the Japanese Legation, at the Vestry-Hall, King's-road, Chelsea, the subject being "Our Relations with Japan."

Prizes were presented last Saturday evening to the 37th Middlesex Rifles (who have increased their number of efficient to 885, the result of augmenting the establishment to 900) at Freemasons' Hall, by Colonel Freemantle, of the Coldstream Guards; to the 1st Middlesex Engineers (571 strong, 512 being efficient), at their head-quarters, Kensington, by Colonel Ransome, their commanding officer; and to the 3rd London Rifles (having a total strength of 930, 816 being efficient), at Guildhall, by the Lord Mayor. The prizes of the 23rd Surrey were distributed by Colonel Payne, at the head-quarters, Rotherhithe, on the 13th inst., when it was stated that there were thirty-four proficient, 275 efficient, and fifty-two non-efficient. The 5th Essex received their prizes the same night at Plaistow, from the hands of Colonel Birt, who stated that the shooting, drill, efficiency, and numbers of the corps all show an improvement on the end of the last year.





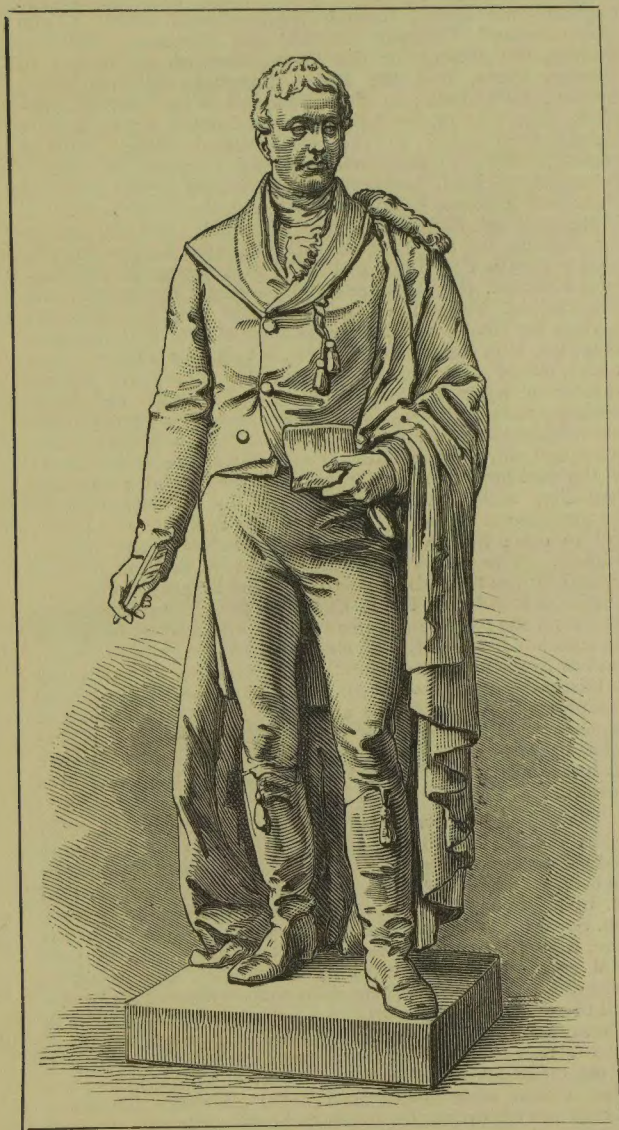
SKETCHES OF THE KAFFIR WAR.



THE STORMING OF KARS—SUNDAY MORNING, NOV. 18, 1877.

STATUES FOR GLASGOW.

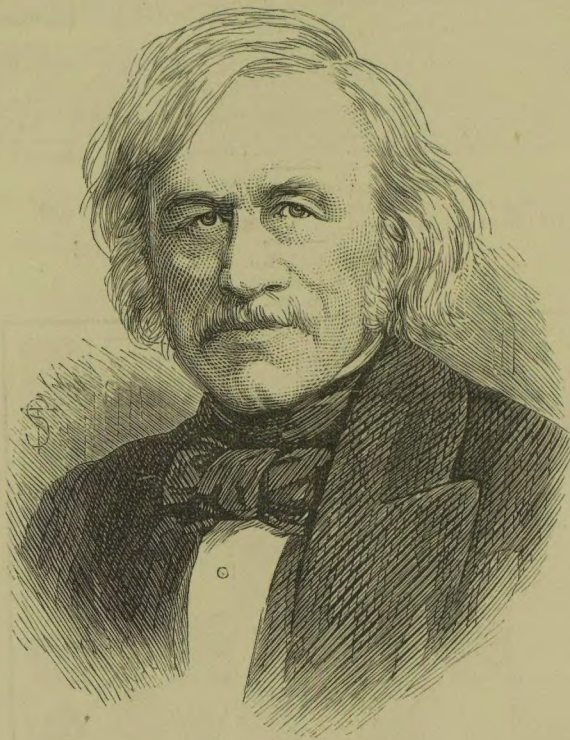
The bronze statue of Thomas Campbell, the poet, which has been erected in George-square, Glasgow, is to be unveiled on Friday next. We give an illustration of this statue of the author of "The Pleasures of Hope," "Gertrude of Wyoming,"



STATUE OF THOMAS CAMPBELL, AT GLASGOW.

"The Last Man," "Hohenlinden," and "The Battle of the Baltic." The sculptor is Mr. John Mossman, of Glasgow, who has also been employed on the statue of David Livingstone, the great missionary traveller and geographical explorer

of Africa. The city of Glasgow is entitled to claim a peculiar interest in the fame of both these eminent men, as natives of the adjoining districts. The statues, cast by Messrs. Cox and Sons, founders, are highly to be commended as works of art. The Livingstone statue, pronounced the best likeness yet produced, is now on its way to Glasgow. But as the committee have not yet decided on the design for the pedestal, the date of its erection has not been fixed;—it will be probably about March, 1878. This commission was, like the one for Campbell, gained by Mr. Mossman, in open competition. It may interest readers to know that Mr. Mossman is a trained artist. His father worked in Chantrey's studio with Allan Cunningham.



THE LATE MR. SYDNEY SMIRKE, R.A.

He was himself assistant, in London to Baron Marochetti before commencing business with a younger brother of great promise (a student at the Royal Academy in London), who died some years ago. Mr. Mossman adds greatly by these two works to his local reputation.

THE LATE MR. SYDNEY SMIRKE, R.A.

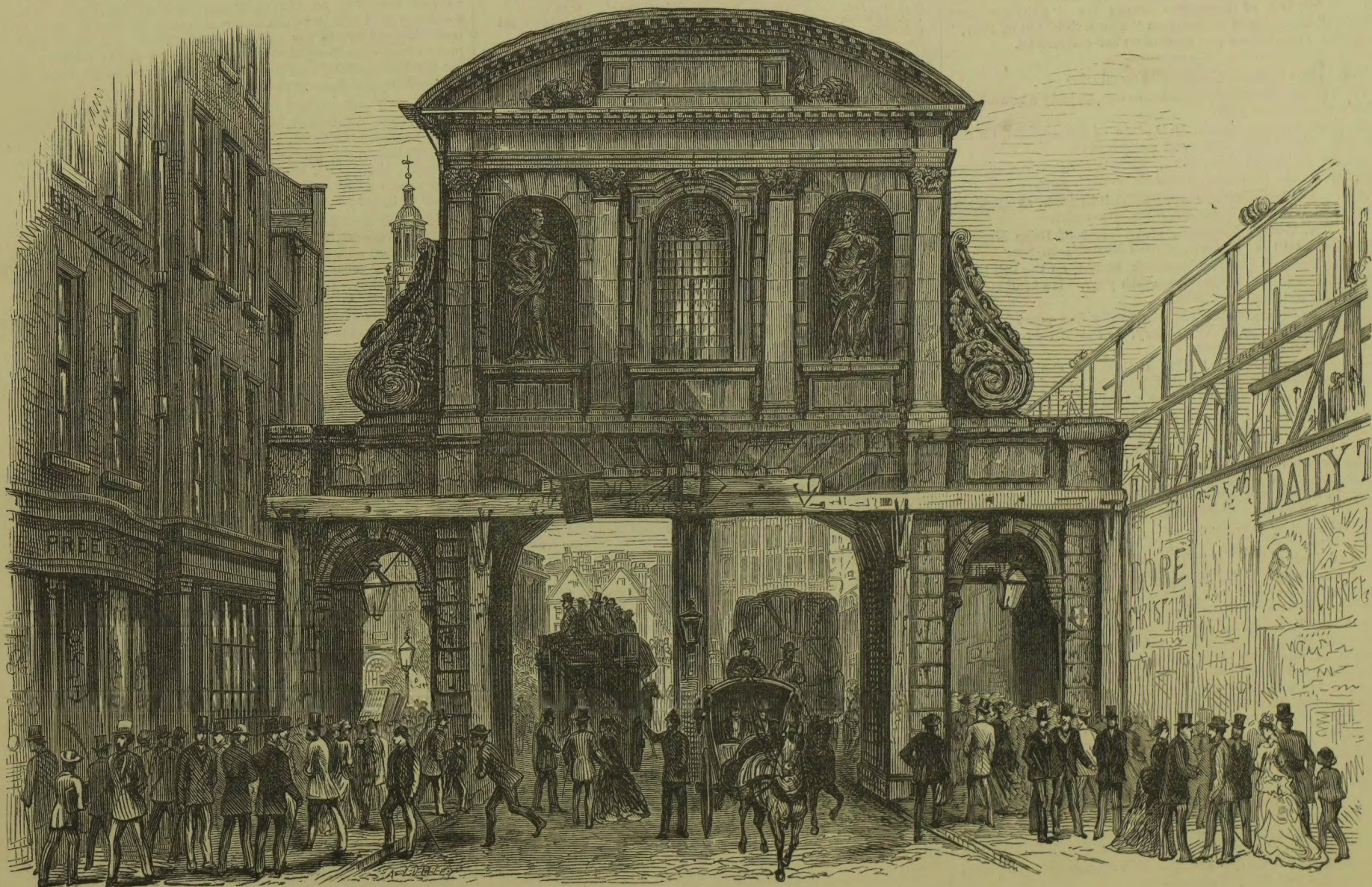
We announced last week the death of this well-known architect, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was a brother of the late Sir Robert Smirke, R.A. He won the gold medal of the Royal Academy in 1810, and subsequently gained a distinguished position in his profession, from which he retired on the completion of the new Royal Academy buildings, Burlington House. Among the other works identified with

his name are the Carlton and Conservative Club houses; the restoration of portions of Lichfield Cathedral and York Minster; the restoration of the Savoy Chapel, and (in conjunction with Mr. C. Burton) of the Temple Church; the Reading-Room, Roman and Assyrian Galleries, and other works at the British Museum; and the dining-hall at the



STATUE OF DAVID LIVINGSTONE, AT GLASGOW.

Inner Temple. Mr. Smirke was architect to Bridewell and Bethlehem Hospitals and to the Inner Temple, and Surveyor-General to the Duchy of Lancaster. He was elected Associate of the Royal Academy in 1848, Royal Artist in 1860, Professor of Architecture in the Academy in 1861, and Treasurer in 1862. He was a Fellow of several societies, and gold medallist of the Royal Institute of British Architects.



TEMPLE BAR, CITY FRONT (SKETCHED WHEN THE SUPPORTING BEAMS WERE FIRST PUT UP).

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL A. C. BENTINCK.

Lieutenant-General Arthur Cavendish Bentinck died on the 11th inst., at Thomas's Hotel, Berkeley-square. He was born May 10, 1819, the second son of Lord William Bentinck, and grandson of William Henry, third Duke of Portland, K.G., and became, at the death of his cousin, Lord Henry William Bentinck, in 1870, heir-presumptive to the dukedom of Portland. He entered the Army in November, 1838, and for some years commanded the 7th (Princess Royal's) Dragoon Guards, and was subsequently Inspecting Field Officer in Dublin. He served with his regiment in the Kaffir war of 1847. His promotion to be Lieutenant-General dates only from Oct. 1 last. General Bentinck married, first, Feb. 18, 1857, Elizabeth Sophia, eldest daughter of Sir St. Vincent Hawkins-Whitshed, Bart., and by her, who died Jan. 4, 1858, leaves an only child, William John Arthur Charles James Cavendish Bentinck, born Dec. 28, 1857, now heir-presumptive to the dukedom of Portland. General Bentinck married, secondly, June 10, 1862, Augusta Mary Elizabeth, younger daughter of the Hon. and Very Rev. H. M. Browne, Dean of Lismore, by whom he leaves three sons and a daughter.

MR. WELD OF LULWORTH.

Edward Joseph Weld, Esq., of Lulworth Castle, in the county of Dorset, J.P. and D.L., died on the 8th inst. He was born June 8, 1806, the eldest son of Joseph Weld, Esq., of Lulworth Castle, by the Hon. Elizabeth Charlotte Stourton, his wife, daughter of Charles Philip, sixteenth Lord Stourton, and was nephew of his Eminence Cardinal Weld, the first Englishman who had a seat in the Conclave since the pontificate of Clement IX. The Welds of Lulworth, originally of Eaton, in Cheshire, have long held a leading position among the Catholic aristocracy of England, and still possess very extensive estates and influence. The gentleman whose death we record served as High Sheriff of Dorsetshire in 1872. He married, Aug. 9, 1838, Ellen Caroline, eldest daughter of Sir Bouchier Falk Wrey, Bart., of Tawstock Court, Devon, and by her, who died Oct. 13, 1866, leaves issue.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL TEDLIE.

Lieutenant-Colonel William Tedlie, late of the 60th Royal Rifles, whose death at Boulogne-sur-Mer on the 6th inst. was announced in our last issue, entered the service as Second Lieutenant first battalion 60th Royal Rifles, May, 1848, and retired in 1873. The services of this officer were chiefly in India. He was attached to the 53rd Regiment, and took part with it in the operations against the mutineers in December, 1857, including the actions of Khodagunge and the entry into Futtyghur. He served as Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General to the Roorkee field force under Brigadier-General Jones in the campaign of Rohilkund in 1858, including the actions of Bugawalla and Nugeena, relief of Moorabad, action in the Dojura capture of Bareilly, bombardment of Shajehanpore, capture of the fort of Bunnai, pursuit of the enemy to the left bank of the Goomtee, and destruction of the fort of Mahomdee. Colonel Tedlie was Brigade-Major to the Shajehan brigade in 1858 and 1859, including the action of Bunkagong, under Sir Thomas Seaton, and important operations in Oude. He married, in 1870, Emily Mary, only daughter of the late distinguished author and antiquary, Sir Frederic Madden, K.H.

MR. R. N. WORNUM.

Mr. Ralph Nicholson Wornum, the Keeper and Secretary of the National Gallery, died on the 15th inst., at his house in Belsize-square, in his sixty-fifth year. Having been educated at the University College, London, he went abroad in 1834 to study painting in the Continental galleries, returning in 1839, when he became a frequent contributor on art-subjects to periodical and cyclopædic literature. He prepared the official catalogue of the National Gallery, and was subsequently lecturer on Art to the Government Schools of Design; librarian and keeper of the casts to the Schools of Design; and (from 1855) secretary and keeper of the National Gallery. Wornum was the author of numerous works on "Painting and Painters," and also of an essay on "The Exhibition of 1851," and various catalogues and reports on art-collections.

The deaths have also been announced of—

Dr. Francis Hawkins, physician to her Majesty's household, in his eighty-fourth year.

Herbert Norman Evans, M.D., late of Hampstead, on the 10th inst., at St. Leonards, aged seventy-five.

Arthur Robert Adams, Q.C., Recorder of Birmingham, suddenly, on the 13th inst., in his sixty-sixth year.

Henry Thomas Curtis, Esq., on the 10th inst., at Burfield Lodge, Old Windsor, Berks, aged seventy-eight.

The Rev. George Fereman, M.A., Vicar of Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, on the 8th inst., at St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

Major-General Edward Mortlock Studd, on the 6th inst., at Oxtou, Devon, in his seventy-eighth year. He attained the rank of Major-General in 1854.

The Rev. Joseph Gattley, M.A., twenty-five years Vicar of Harpford, and Rector of Ven Ottery, on the 7th inst., at the Vicarage, aged seventy-four.

Mr. Serjeant Tozer, LL.D., Fellow of Caius College, Cambridge, Recorder of Bury St. Edmunds, on the 8th inst., at James-street, Buckingham-gate, in his seventy-second year.

Robert Alexander Gray, Esq., J.P., Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Surrey, on the 10th inst., at his residence, The Terrace, Camberwell, in his ninetieth year.

The Rev. William Laurence Eliot, M.A., Fellow of Eton College, Rector of Creeting, Suffolk, and Rural Dean, on the 7th inst., at Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, aged sixty-five. He was a direct descendant of the ancient and knightly family of Eliot of Busbridge.

Mr. James Ballantine, Grand Bard to the Scottish Grand Lodge of Freemasons, in Edinburgh, on the 18th inst., at the age of sixty-nine. Mr. Ballantine was the author of "Ilka blade o' grass kops its ain drap o' dew," and other Scottish melodies, and he wrote tales illustrative of Scottish life.

D. Alfred Ker, Esq., of Montalto, late Captain 12th Lancers, on the 8th inst., at Brighton, aged thirty-four. He was the only son of David Stewart Ker, Esq., of Montalto, J.P. and D.L., formerly M.P. for the county of Down, by Anna Dorothea, his wife, daughter of Hans, third Lord Dufferin, and was grandson of David Ker, Esq., of Portavo and Montalto, M.P., by Lady Selina Sarah, his wife, daughter of the first Marquis of Londonderry.

Colonel C. Wood, formerly of the 10th (Prince of Wales's Own) Hussars, one of the few remaining Waterloo officers, at his residence, Carleton Lodge, near Pontefract, on the 12th inst., after a few days' illness, in his eighty-eighth year. Colonel Wood was engaged in the principal battles of the Peninsular War, and was severely wounded in the shoulder at the battle of Busaco, when carrying the King's colours of the 52nd Regiment. He was present at Waterloo with the 10th Hussars, and was badly wounded.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

DELTA.—We are glad to hear from such an old and esteemed contributor to this column. The bright little game which you inclose will receive an early insertion, most probably next week.

T A H.—The problem referred to was duly received. It is marked for insertion, and shall appear in due course.

W ATKINS.—We are afraid it is in too many moves. You will easily understand that we have to consult the tastes of our solvers in these matters.

W LAW.—No. 1 is impossible, according to the solution sent; while No. 2 is much too obvious.

J B R.—Somewhat too simple for our column.

W Mc A (Chichester).—There is unfortunately another solution, commencing with 1. Q takes Kt; otherwise we had liked the composition, and it would have appeared.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1762 received from F M and M B W, H Beermann, Lulu, T Head, N R (Freckenham), P Le Page, Copiapino, D H, and R Franks.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1763 received from P Le Page, Lulu, H Stobbing, Polmont, Hargent, Jane N (Utrecht), M O Heywood, T Ingold, S G Stripe, F H Warner, J H Skelton, E Clarkson, South Bank, Tyro, W F Payne, H A N, Rugby, N R (Freckenham), J Hardden, D H, and Trial.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1764 received from Paul's Roost, Long Stop, Lulu, J Wentone, H A N, N R (Freckenham), G Wright, N Powell, Don, W F Payne, Wee Lawn, M McIntyre, M A W, H M Pridoux, F H Warner, W T Aman, W S B, W J Sedgfield, G H G, J H W T Miller, Cant, S G Stripe, Emile Fran, M C Heywood, H F J Longfield, Shobrooke, Dr F St, A F Scott, R D Skuse, W H Ward, W Leeson, J Marsden, Hereward, E L G, H Ree, E Clarkson, J H Skelton, G H V, E H H V, A F Turner, Bosworth, J Sowden, Woolwich Chess Club, W C D Smith, R H Brooks, Carl Imandt, J Ridpath, Marietta de Seijas, D H, J de Honsteyn, H G Prover, A N Cherrill, Cathcart, H M S, Hector, W C Dutton, T Burrell, Wilkie, and T Agnew.

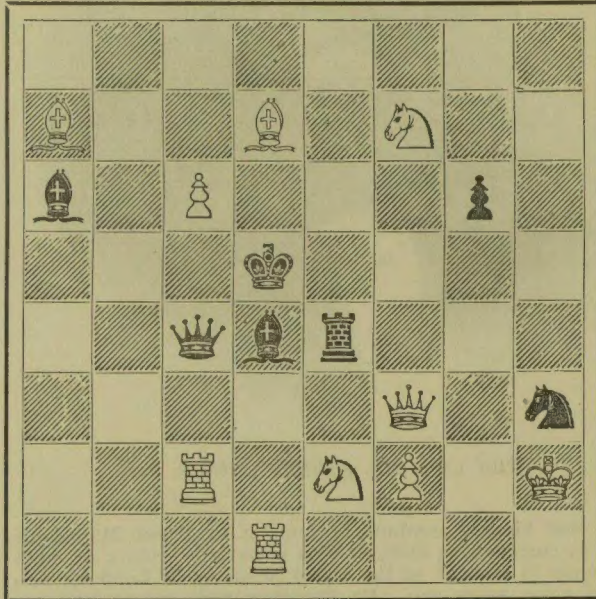
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1763.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Q to Kt sq. Any move. 2. Mates accordingly.

PROBLEM No. 1766.

By J. PIERCE, M.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

CHESS IN MANCHESTER.

The following two very fine Games were, with five others, conducted simultaneously by Mr. J. H. BLACKBURNE, without seeing the boards or men, against seven members of the Church Club, Manchester, on the 3rd inst. All the seven games were over in about three hours, Mr. Blackburne having then won five and drawn the remaining two. The sparkling gamelet which we first give hereunder was contested against Mr. E. H. Woody, one of the strongest players in Manchester.

(Evans's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd
3. B to B 4th	B to B 4th	3. B to B 4th	B to B 4th
4. P to Q Kt 4th	P to Q 4th	4. P to Q Kt 4th	P to Q 4th
5. P takes P	Kt takes P	5. P takes P	Kt takes P
6. B to R 3rd	P to K 5th	6. B to R 3rd	P to K 5th
7. Kt to K 5th	Q to B 3rd	7. Kt to K 5th	Q to B 3rd
8. Castles		8. Castles	

Characteristically brilliant, and evidently intended on the previous move. It is a special feature of Mr. Blackburne's blindfold play that he rejoices in complications.

8. Q takes Kt	Q takes Kt
9. P to Q B 3rd	B takes P (ch)

If Kt to R 3rd, White replies with B takes B, followed (if Kt retakes) by P to Q 4th; while, if P to Q 3rd, White first

Played on the same occasion between Mr. BLACKBURNE and the Rev. Mr. JEFFRIES, another strong Manchester amateur.

(Allgater-Kieseritzki Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Rev. Mr. J.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Rev. Mr. J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	2. P to K B 4th	P takes P
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th
4. P to K B 4th	P to Kt 5th	4. P to K B 4th	P to Kt 5th
5. Kt to K 5th	B to Kt 2nd	5. Kt to K 5th	B to Kt 2nd
6. P to Q 4th	Kt to K B 3rd	6. P to Q 4th	Kt to K B 3rd
7. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th	7. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th
	P to Q 3rd is better.		
8. B takes P	P to K R 4th	8. B takes P	P to K R 4th
9. B to K Kt 5th	Castles	9. B to K Kt 5th	Castles
10. Kt takes Q P	Q to Q 3rd	10. Kt takes Q P	Q to Q 3rd
11. B takes Kt	B takes B	11. B takes Kt	B takes B
12. B to B 4th	B takes Kt	12. B to B 4th	B takes Kt
13. P takes B	Q takes P	13. P takes B	Q takes P
14. Castles	B to K 3rd	14. Castles	B to K 3rd
15. Kt to B 6th (ch)	K to Kt 2nd	15. Kt to B 6th (ch)	K to Kt 2nd
16. Q to Q 2nd	Kt to B 3rd	16. Q to Q 2nd	Kt to B 3rd

Exceedingly well played. The move

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

The following particulars have been furnished to us by Mr. J. H. Blackburne, who has just returned to London from a visit to the North of England. On the 28th ult. he conducted a simultaneous blindfold match against eight strong players at the Bradford Chess Club, and he won five games as against one lost, the other two being drawn. On the 1st inst. he played under similar conditions against eight members of the Manchester Chess Club, winning five of the games and drawing the other three. On the 3rd inst. he contested as above mentioned at the Church Club, Manchester, defeating five of the players and drawing with the other two. These figures show a total of fifteen blindfold games won by Mr. Blackburne, seven others being drawn, and only one lost—a highly successful result, and the more creditable because all the three performances took place within the short period of six days.

A contest, consisting of two games to be conducted through the post, has been commenced between the Bermondsey Club and the recently established Chess Club at Dawson-street, Dublin.

On the 8th inst. a match took place between the Liverpool and Manchester Chess Clubs, at the rooms of the former. There were ten players on each side—viz., Messrs. Burn, Schull, J. Soul, Wellington, C. Soul, Dufresne, Ferguson, Allaire, Wood, and "Nemo"—on the part of Liverpool; Messrs. E. H. Wood, H. Heap, H. Jones, Fish, Von Zubern, W. Jones, Giltay, Boyer, Wilson, and Major-General Vials on behalf of Manchester. The score at the finish showed that each club had won seven games, with two draws; and, consequently, the honours were divided. The return contest is to be fought at Manchester at the end of the season; and we learn that there will be for the future two such "home and home" matches between these clubs every year.

In Division A of the City of London Handicap Tournament, Messrs. Huckle and Lord have each defeated their opponents, so that they will form two of the surviving eight combatants who in the next round will compete for first and second prizes. The contest between Messrs. Macdonnell in the same division still remains undecided. One game has been played between them, which was won by the last-named player.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will and seven codicils (dated respectively Aug. 4, 1875) Aug. 4 and Dec. 13, 1876; and Feb. 13, May 25, and Aug. 29, 1877, of the Hon. Mrs. Mary Howard, late of Ashstead Park, Surrey, who died on Oct. 19 last, were proved on the 6th inst. by General the Hon. Arthur Upton, the nephew, and Augustus Frederick Coe, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £250,000. The testatrix bequeaths to the Orphan Girls' Home, Kendal, Westmoreland, £2000; to the Westmoreland Diocesan Church and Parsonage Building Society, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, £1000 each; to the Lynn and West Norfolk Hospital, King's Lynn, Norfolk, and the Curates' Augmentation Fund, £500 each; to the Incorporated Clergy Orphan Society, £200; to the Surrey County Hospital, St. John's Foundation School, Leatherhead, the Society for the Relief of Distressed Widows, Sackville-street, and the Asylum for the Indigent Blind, Red Lion-square, £100 each; and £50 each to the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, Old Kent-road, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Charing-cross Hospital, the Governesses' Benevolent Institution, the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society, and the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood; and she directs that her god-daughter, Miss Harriet Mary Paget, is to have for life all votes arising out of these charitable bequests. There are a large number of legacies, both pecuniary and specific, and many annuities to her relatives and friends; and her old and present servants are handsomely remembered. There are also a number of bequests for the benefit of the poor and to the local charities of the parishes in which she was interested; and a sum not exceeding £2000 is to be expended by her executors in the purchase of an organ for, and in the building of a porch, and in other restorations of the church at Castle Rising, Norfolk. The Fisherwick farm property, Staffordshire, is devised by the testatrix to Walter Alfred Bagot for life, with remainder to Admiral Henry Bagot for life, with remainder to his second son; the rest of her Staffordshire estates, including the mansion-house at Elford, she settles on Mr. Howard Paget; and her Norfolk estates, including the mansion and property at Castle Rising, have been settled on the Hon. Greville Theophilus Howard. There are also some other devises and bequests; and the residue of her property, real as well as personal, she leaves to General the Hon. Arthur Upton, George Frederick Viscount Templeton, the Hon. Greville Theophilus Howard, and Colonel Charles Bagot.

The will and codicil (dated July 22, 1872, and Oct. 9, 1877) of Mr. William Beardmore, late of Parkhead, Glasgow, who died at Brighton in October last, were proved and recorded in the books of Council and Session, &c., Edinburgh, on the 17th ult. by his brother-in-law, the Rev. William George Martin, Mrs. Sophia Beardmore, the widow, and Mr. William Beardmore, the son of the deceased, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £140,000. The testator, amongst other provisions, bequeaths to his widow all his household furniture, plate, pictures, &c., absolutely, together with an annuity of £1000, and a sum of £300 for mourning expenses, and a further sum of £500 for interim aliment. The residue of his estate he leaves to his children in equal portions; the shares of each, after deducting a liberal allowance for maintenance and education, he directs to be set aside and invested until they shall respectively attain majority.

The will, with two codicils thereto, of the late Rev. Robert Tritton, M.A., Rector of Morden, Surrey, has been proved in the principal registry, by his nephew, Mr. Joseph Tritton, his great nephew, Mr. Joseph Herbert Tritton, and his sons, the Rev. Robert Biscoe Tritton, and the Rev. William Biscoe Tritton, the personal estate being sworn under £120,000. Specific bequests are made of plate; the estate in Kent is devised to his eldest son, the Rev. Robert Biscoe Tritton, to whom are also given all books, manuscripts, letters, and pictures in testator's residence. Pecuniary legacies are given to two relatives, to the executors, and to servants. The residuary real and personal estate is vested in the trustees of the will upon trusts for sale and conversion, and, after payment of legacies to testator's four sons, and to the trustees of his three daughters' marriage settlements, for division between all his sons and daughters in equal shares.

The will and codicil (dated Aug. 29, 1874, and June 27, 1877) of Mr. William Ashmore, late of No. 11, Green Park, Bath, formerly Major of H.M. 16th Regiment, who died on Sept. 22 last, were proved on the 23rd ult. by Mrs. Harriet Ashmore, the widow, the sole executrix, the personal estate being sworn under £30,000. The provisions of the will are in favour of testator's wife and children.

The will and two codicils (dated March 27 and Oct. 3, 1867, and July 27, 1872) of Mr. James Henry, late of Blackdown House, and of Upperfold House, Sussex, who died on Oct. 14 last, were proved on the 11th inst. by Mrs. Mary Frances Henry, the widow, and Simon Adam Beck, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £30,000. The only persons interested in the testator's testamentary dispositions are his wife and children.

The will (dated April 30, 1873) of Mr. Edmund Boyle Church, late of The Bank, Highgate, who died on the 24th ult., was proved on the 5th inst. by Edmund Francis Blake Church, William Edward Church, and Charles Grant Church, the sons, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £18,000. The testator gives legacies to his daughters, and the rest of his property between all his children.

The executors of the late Mr. George Moore, of Bow-churchyard, Kensington Palace-gardens, and Whitehall, in the county of Cumberland, have completed their trust by paying the bequests left under that gentleman's will, dated May 21, 1874, amounting in the aggregate to £216,500, the particulars of which were given in this Paper at the time. Of this large sum £94,500 has been left by the testator amongst the various charitable institutions and missionary societies of the metropolis, his native county of Cumberland sharing liberally in the distribution. The private legacies vary in amount from £1000 to £20,000 each. These payments are in excess of a large number of other bequests, varying from £5 5s. to £500, and amounting altogether to £33,000, which were paid over nearly twelve months since to the employés of the firm of Copestake, Moore, Crampton, Hughes, and Co., in rateable proportions according to seniority, and some friends.

The late Mr. James Wood, glassmaker, of Dudley, has made the following bequests:—£1395 5s. 7d. to each of the Home Missionary, Colonial Missionary, and London Missionary Societies, and £697 to each of the following—the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Religious Tract Society. He was a Congregationalist.

Upon the recommendation of Lord Beaconsfield, the Queen has conferred upon the widow of the late Rev. Richard Shilleto, of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, a pension of £150 a year from her Majesty's Civil List, in recognition of his eminent attainments as a Greek scholar.

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